

ILLUSTRATED TIMES

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

NEW SERIES.

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No. 423.—VOL. II.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1863.

PRICE 3D.—STAMPED 4D.

THE BRITISH SEAMAN.

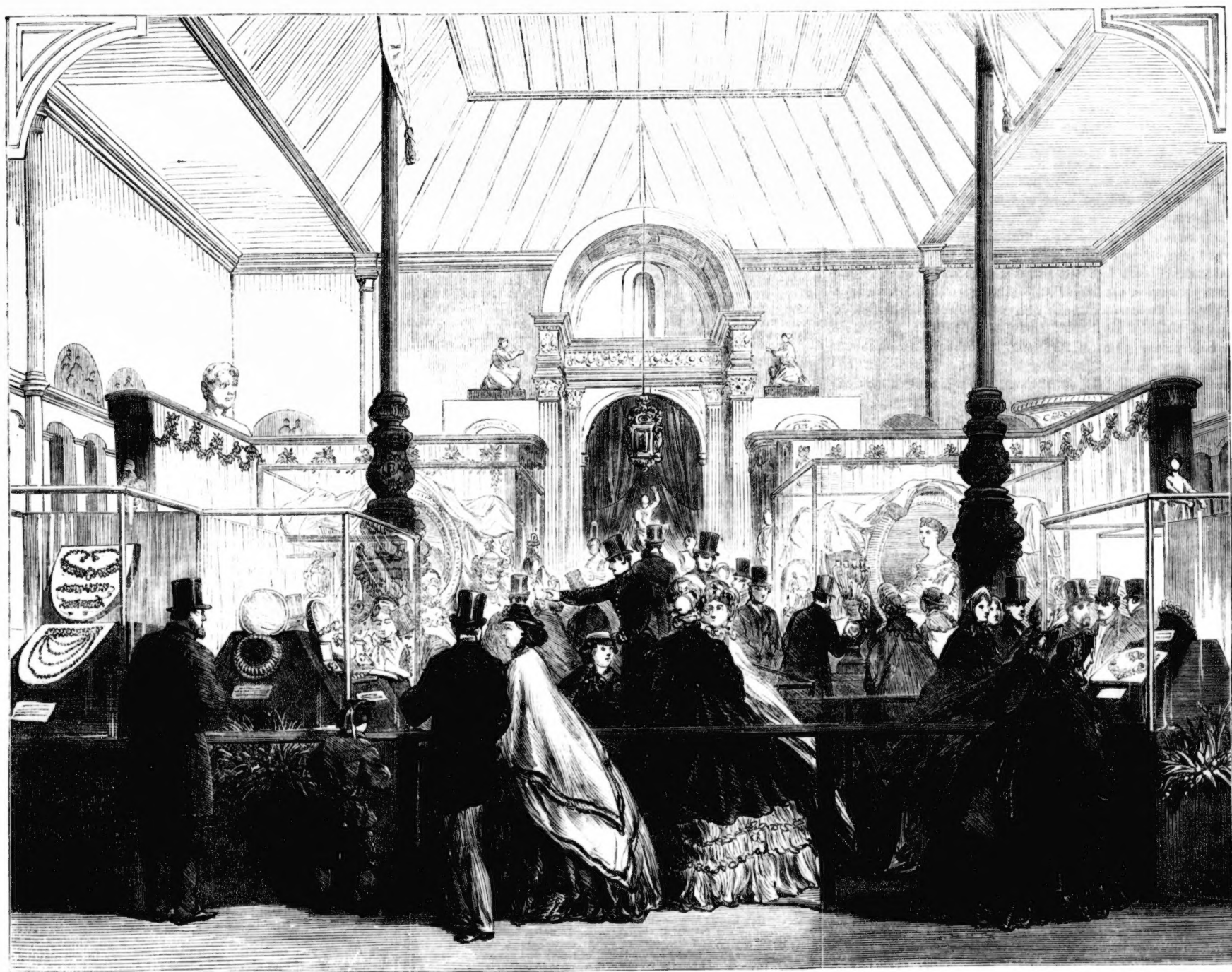
ADMIRAL WILKES is prospering in the illustrious career which began with the arrest of the Trent. He and his flying squadron on the West India station continue to take possession of any British merchant ship he may choose to think intolerable content with no more excuse than the suggestions of Mr. Seward or the provocations of his own bellicose fancy. The unlucky vessel may have sailed from England harmless and confiding as a fair-going damsel, or gramma with her basket of eggs; her cargo may be unimpeachable as the virtue of Penelope or the patriotism of Wilkes himself; she may be bound for a neutral port (like Matamoras), or even to a British port (like Nassau); but all this gives her no assured protection. Matamoras lies on the borders of Confederate territory; Nassau is suspected of doing a lively trade with Charleston; and, therefore, if any British vessel venture to take a cargo out of London or Liverpool for either of those obnoxious places, she must do so at the risk of being captured by Federal cruisers, as the Peterhoff and the Dolphin have been.

Whatever may be thought at home, it is certainly the opinion of several thousand statesmen in Boston and New York, and also of the less numerous but more intelligent journalists of France, that these manifestly innocent ships are not seized by

accident. The belief with them is, that the Federal Government means to provoke a war with England; and that, having resolved on this course of politics, it naturally wishes to begin in the most popular, or in other words the most insolent and injurious, way. That, we say, is the theory of the case entertained amongst Americans themselves, and by dispassionate lookers-on in France, whose own Matamoras-bound vessels are never interrupted. Now, of course, we in England need not carry our apprehensions so far. It is hard to believe that the Federal Government really means to kick us into war, but at the same time it is obvious that we are being kicked. Nor can it be denied that that is a circumstance which demands consideration. To be sure, *La France* may be wrong in its conclusions after all; "Manhattan" may be a wholly misrepresentative politician; Mr. Seward may be anxious for peace, and ready to apologise like a man and a minister for anything; but if the kicking goes on meanwhile, some notice must be taken of it at last. Admiral Wilkes cannot be allowed to proceed in his chivalric but illegal course for ever, even with the best intentions; and admitting, for the present, that his Government does not instruct him in his hostility to English commerce, this remains—that it depends upon the discretion of a hot, "sprit," and hysterical captain whether we are to have a naval war or not this summer.

With such a possibility before us, the sailor again rises into importance. Iron-clad vessels have not existed long enough yet, and their known exploits are too doubtful, to do away with our confidence in the bluejacket, our absolute reliance on his courage and his skill; and so we may be perfectly sure that, as soon as the oft-threatening prospect of an American war takes any shape of certainty, the nation will once more go into a rapture of British seamen. "The Tar, Sir," will be heard of in every conversation; stories of his ancient achievements will add intoxication to the sober dinner-tables of to-day; and his daring, his simplicity, his gaiety, and the tenderness of his amours, will be sung by W. C. Bennett, and published by every music-seller in town and country. We shall also hear, perhaps, once more of the difficulty of getting a fleet manned by these heroes: a difficulty which was found insurmountable during the Crimean War, and one which, we fear, is scarcely provided for in the event of an American war, even by the Naval Reserve, or the new plan of stoking a ship into action by a dozen engineers instead of sailing her with a hundred seamen. An American war, which would put an endless swarm of privateers upon the seas, would engage every available vessel, iron or wooden, in her Majesty's Navy; and to keep them well manned does not appear easy after our recent experiences.

In this concatenation of probabilities, it is as well to be



EXHIBITION OF THE WEDDING PRESENTS TO THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES AT THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

sure that our sentimental pride in the British sailor, and our hope of his services, may not be mocked by our neglect of him. Now, there can be no doubt that the condition of her Majesty's seamen has been much improved of late years. The very difficulties we are now contemplating forced a revision of Admiralty blunders and naval abuses; and so anxiously was the work done, that we were almost persuaded there was no more to do. Opportunely enough, we are now shown that this was a mistake.

There is no institution in the country of which we are prouder than Greenwich Hospital; none with which we are more satisfied. When we think of the sailor's perils, his hard life, his desperate adventure, his ready heroism at sea, and his helplessness ashore, we reflect with pride that, at any rate, there is Greenwich Hospital for him at last—a retreat magnificent in itself, and conferring dignity as well as comfort on every man within its walls. We flatter ourselves that a well-paid service which has that provision in the end is a good one, with all its ill chances; and have no doubt that the prospect of laying up in that stately Greenwich building, when, "by reason of age, wounds, or other disabilities, he shall be incapable of further services at sea," must cheer the seaman through many heavy hours. It turns out, however, that he contemplates the workhouse with more hope, and becomes a parish pauper with as much satisfaction as a Greenwich pensioner.

Here are a few facts gathered from the report of a commission appointed "to inquire into the internal economy and management of Greenwich Hospital, and of the funds by which it is maintained," &c. The hospital, about the year 1763, possessed, for the first time, a surplus of income over expenditure, "and from that year till 1829 paid out-pensions to those old sailors who could not be accommodated within its walls." In 1829 the out-pensions were made a direct charge upon the country, to be met by an annual vote; and then "the hospital was left, in addition to its other resources, with an accumulated capital of £2,000,000 in the public funds." Its income now is £150,000 a year—a revenue large enough to provide handsomely for every seaman who could be lodged in the hospital, and it is capable of accommodating 2600 men. But little more than half that number are found willing or able to avail themselves of Greenwich hospitality. There are eleven hundred vacancies, and at the same moment as many old, disabled seamen are actually in receipt of parochial relief! In 1805 the number of pensioners in the hospital was 2410, and the expenses of the establishment were £21,837. In 1859 only 1676 pensioners had to be catered for, but the cost of management had risen to £48,667. The sum expended annually on each pensioner remains unaltered from the beginning, but in seventy years the salaries of officers and so forth have increased threefold. These officers, it must be understood, were originally appointed "for the care and protection of the poor men," but their emoluments consume revenues provided for the poor men's use, and for the maintenance of their wives and the education of their children. Now, it seems, the women and children are "utterly neglected and ignored."

These revelations are many enough and significant enough for our purpose, and we need add no more to them. They establish the fact that a noble institution which we have particular reasons for cherishing has fallen into corruption, and is turned into a reproach by those whom we fondly thought it benefited. Eleven hundred seamen, aged and broken in the country's service, are lodged in workhouses, either because they cannot find their way into the rich, magnificent, much-vaunted hospital wherein they have earned a right to be, and where there is plenty of room for them, or because a workhouse affords more satisfactory accommodation! This is not encouraging to young men about to enter her Majesty's service; nothing more must be said about Greenwich Hospital when sailors are invited to serve the Queen and earn the rewards of a grateful country.

THE ROYAL WEDDING PRESENTS EXHIBITION.

THE exhibition of the marriage presents to the Prince and Princess of Wales attracts a larger number of visitors from day to day. The following returns of the number of visitors will show the steady increase that each day makes over the preceding:—On Friday, the 17th, being a students' day, admission was obtained by payment of sixpence, and the numbers present on that day were 5198, the sum of money taken at the doors being £129 19s.; on Saturday, a free day, 16,274 persons inspected the Royal gifts, besides 46 babies in arms; on Monday, also a free day, 20,467 persons and 372 babies in arms were admitted; and on Tuesday, likewise free, 21,161 persons and 258 babies were present. We understand that it will be necessary that the jewels now exhibited should be removed shortly for the Princess of Wales's personal use; but her Royal Highness has graciously consented that the most important of them shall, if possible, be returned from time to time when not required. The Prince and Princess visited the exhibition on Wednesday afternoon.

The arrangements being now more complete, less inconvenience is experienced in obtaining a sight of these elegant articles than on the so-called private-view day, when very great inconvenience indeed was experienced. A French visitor who was present on that occasion thus details his sufferings and grievances to a contemporary:—

Through the complaisant attentions of a distinguished friend, who is one of the deputies of the Private Council, I receive tickets for my spouse and myself to the "private view of the wedding presents of the Prince and Princess of Wales." Behold us, therefore, in habit of full dress, presenting ourselves at the entrance of the Royal Museum of Kensington. Sir, it was at least one good half-hour before the carriage, which we had engaged on purpose, with two magnificent horses of blood, a coachman, and valet of place, could arrive for the crowd at the doors. There they make us descend and pass through some long, low, mean passages into a kind of bazaar full of glass cases—a sort of universal exposition—where we find ourselves in presence of a crowd the most promiscuous. We had figured to ourselves that we should have seen in those Royal halls all the Queen's family, her Ministers of Cabinet, the great Lords of the Senate, and all the deputies of the Private Council; but what was our surprise when we found people neither more or less distinguished, and not better dressed, than we had left on our own splendid boulevards—some in hats, some in bonnets, some in frock, some in habit of morning, but none in habit of Court! We follow the torrent of the crowd, and we find ourselves soon engaged between two narrow barriers. It was the tail of the Grand Opera—nothing more, nothing less. We do not advance one foot in ten minutes. We commence impatient ourselves; when, after the duration of one hour, we at length touch the corner of a case enveloping these fine and rare gifts of the bride. We insert our heads, as much well as ill, over the shoulders of our neighbours; we take one first and hasty glance, when at the instant behold a

commissary of police, in a brutal tone of insolent authority, exclaims in our ears, "Move on!" What for move on, when we come precisely to rest and examine the riches of England at our leisure. I observe to him with calmness and respect, "Sir, I pray you to indicate to me the locality of the gifts of her Majesty, or at least of my lord the prefect of London." For all reply I obtain again, "Keep moving!" What brutality! what insolence! what omission of all politeness! I give you my word of honour, M. the Editor, that we were forced to "move on" by these supercilious commissaries in the middle of such a crowd that after another hour, without knowing too much where we were impelled, we found ourselves ejected from the final vomitory of the barriers. As if this indignity should not be enough, there again another commissary of police motions to us with his hand, and repeats the odious and eternal "Move on!"

We did not see one single gift of all that we desired with so much ardour! And, for the complement of misfortune, the magnificent robe of Madame, for which I had that morning paid 1000fr., was found on emerging from this mass of humanity not to be worth 100fr. Those melancholy two hours' compression stood us in, therefore, for 900fr.

Sir, I have the honour of protesting against this pitiable deception, and I reserve to myself the right of reclaiming the 900fr. moread through the intervention of M. the Ambassador of the Emperor at the Court of her Britannic Majesty. The view was not private; it was fundamentally public.

Foreign Intelligence

FRANCE.

The Polish question is the sole topic of discussion and conversation in Paris, and an increasing distrust in the maintenance of peace is everywhere felt. The Paris journals profess to have reason to believe that Russia, in order to avoid giving a reply to the collective notes of the three Powers, will answer each separately, and that there will be considerable delay in forwarding the replies. The *Europe* says the Emperor Napoleon has addressed an autograph letter to the Emperor of Austria upon the state of European affairs, and especially on the crisis resulting from the insurrection in Poland.

ITALY.

The Italian Ministry have received a defeat in the Chamber of Deputies. Signor Lovito introduced a bill authorising the Ministry to expend certain sums to meet the urgent wants of the Administration, the satisfaction of which could not admit the delay of the usual constitutional forms. The measure was objected to as unconstitutional, and rejected. Warm debates have taken place on the state of Naples and Sicily, which is described as deplorable in the extreme. The question, however, was adjourned till the report of the brigandage commission should come before the House.

Colonel Catubene and other Garibaldian or Mazzinian agitators have been arrested at Naples, Bologna, and elsewhere on suspicion of clandestine enlistments.

SWITZERLAND.

The Austrian Government has acquainted the Federal Council that adherents of Mazzini in Switzerland are plotting an attack upon the southern portion of the Tyrol.

PRUSSIA.

In the Prussian Chamber of Deputies Herr Von Twisten asked the Government whether it considered the late Danish proclamation relating to the Schleswig-Holstein Duchies as an infringement of the assurances given by Denmark in 1852. Herr Von Bismarck-Schönbhausen replied in the affirmative, and said that the Government would concert with its Federal allies, and especially with Austria, the steps to be adopted. In the debate upon the bill respecting Ministerial responsibility on Wednesday, Herr Von Bismarck declared that the present time was unsuitable for the adoption of such a measure, and that the Government therefore must refuse to sanction it. Despite this declaration on the part of the Premier, it is believed certain that the Chamber will pass the bill.

RUSSIA.

At a Privy Council held upon Polish affairs on the 19th inst., at the Palace of Tsarskoe-Selo, near St. Petersburg, the notes of the three Powers were simultaneously presented, and produced a very great sensation. The Government of the Emperor had not expected that this step would have been taken with views so completely in unison.

Count Sigismund Wielopolski has been requested to send in his resignation, on account, it is said, of the challenge he sent to Prince Napoleon; and it is rumoured that his father, Count Wielopolski, has requested leave to resign his post, owing to a disagreement with General Berg.

DENMARK.

The Rigsgaad (Legislative Assembly for Denmark-Schleswig) was opened in Copenhagen, on the 22nd inst., by the President of the Council reading the Speech from the Throne. The Speech adverted to the marriage of her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, and the marks of attachment and joy which that auspicious event had called forth among loyal subjects. His Majesty expected that the Rigsgaad would vote her Royal Highness a dowry. The Speech next stated that the Royal proclamation of the 30th of March had encountered opposition from the Great Powers of Germany, but that the Government of the King would not allow itself to be led astray by that circumstance from the intentions it had expressed.

THE INSURRECTION IN POLAND.

PROGRESS OF THE MOVEMENT.

THE Polish insurgents are carrying on their operations with increasing vigour, and the Russian Government is concentrating large forces to oppose them.

The insurrectionary movement is reported to be extending round Kalisch. The insurgents, to the number of 5000 men, were assembled in the neighbourhood of the town, which it was daily expected they would attack. The insurgents were very active in other parts, and had gained some successes over the Russians.

According to a telegram from Cracow, however, one of the Polish insurgent detachments, that of Cieszkowski, has experienced a great disaster at Borgencin. The struggle was most sanguinary. Many Polish officers have perished. Cieszkowski, after having been seriously wounded, was killed by the Cossacks. Letters from Lemberg state that Zamczek has taken the command of the corps of Cieszkowski. The *Czas* of Cracow announces that three fresh bands have been formed in the government of Plock. The corps of Lopacki occupies a strong position near Staszow. A large Russian force had marched against Lelewel, who, with the insurgents under his command, was stationed between Tarnograd and Tomaszow, in the south of the Lublin district, and appear to have succeeded in forcing the insurgent leader into an engagement which resulted in the dispersion of his band. Part of the insurgents crossed into Galicia. The band, however, is represented as having been only 300 strong when engaged by the Russians, and the defeat is therefore wholly unimportant.

The Russian amnesty turns out to be much less comprehensive than it was at first believed to be. The text published by the St. Petersburg journals does not tally, it seems, with the official proclamation made in Warsaw. By the terms of the latter, the amnesty only applies to those who have been "drawn into" the movement, which, of course, excludes the leaders.

THE REPLY TO THE AMNESTY.

The following is the text of the answer published by the Insurrectionary Committee to the amnesty:—

Every Pole knows what to think of a Russian amnesty—of any promise, in fact, given by the Muscovite Government. In order, however, that nobody may be led astray, and disappointed in his expectations, we hereby declare the amnesty, as well as any future tender of mercy and pardon, to be rejected by us. In entering upon the struggle, it was not to obtain a set of more or less liberal institutions, which under a Muscovite Government would never be respected, would never give the people any guarantee of a free or even an honourable existence; we have no alternative but to throw off the hateful yoke, and secure our perfect independence of Russia. The nation sheds its blood in order to restore itself to existence. A true Polish heart turns in horror from the thought of reconciliation with the Government to whose

barbarous activity are due numberless murders, nameless cruelties, and the ruin of so many prosperous towns and villages. The graves of our brethren, the blood of our fathers, the desolation of so many homes destroyed by fire, would be enough to render agreement impossible. Poland despises the mercy of the Czar. We have taken up the sword, and we are determined that the sword shall decide between ourselves and Muscovy.

SYMPATHY WITH POLAND.

While in England meetings are being held in almost every town in the kingdom to express sympathy with the Poles in their struggle, and to denounce the conduct of Russia, all over the Continent a similar feeling appears to be prevalent. In Paris there continues a very decided feeling that Russia may leave France no admissible alternative save a warlike demonstration in the Baltic, if not actual hostilities. It is known that stock has been taken of every disposable iron-clad screw frigate and transport at Toulon, Brest, and Cherbourg; nor is it necessary to indicate the promptitude which would follow on an order for embarkation. The Normandie, just returned from the Mexican Gulf, may find its sanitary condition much benefited by a sudden change of temperature according to the process of the "Russian bath;" and *Chariari*, obviously with Government connivance, persists in its issue of daily provocations to armed help for Poland. In its letterpress the other day it anticipates the Czar's reply to the three Powers—to France, "We will talk the matter over one of these days;" to Austria, "Take care what you are about;" to England, "We'll settle it in India."

The Russian Ambassador in Paris has remonstrated rather warmly with the French Government for tolerating the animadversions and caricatures of a portion of the French press on Polish affairs.

Sweden is reported to be making preparations of a warlike nature. It is said also that the Government is actively engaged in fortifying Carlscrona, the most important port of Sweden, and that the harbour will be rendered capable of affording shelter not only to the Swedish fleet, but also to the squadrons of those Powers whose interest it might be to station a naval force in those waters. Orders have been given for the immediate iron-plating of four vessels of war and three frigates. Telegrams go so far as to assert that an offensive and defensive alliance has been arranged between France, Italy, and Sweden; but this we accept as a mere conjecture regarding a prospective possibility. On the other hand, various foreign journals talk of a similar alliance being in course of arrangement between Russia and Prussia. A gratuitous display of Russian ill-humour has been made at Florence, where Count de Stackelberg had been for the last few months on absence by leave from Turin. This functionary waited for the arrival of his Majesty the King of Italy there, not to present his respects, but at once to withdraw ostentatiously and resume residence in the Italian capital.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

WAR NEWS.

The news of the commencement of the bombardment of Charleston has at last arrived. Southern papers state that the attack on Charleston commenced on the 7th. Four out of seven Federal iron-clads were engaged. The firing from Fort Sumter and Moultrie and from Morris Island was very heavy. The Federal steamer Ironsides was hit and run ashore, but subsequently got off. At two in the afternoon eight monitors and the Ironsides concentrated their fire upon Fort Sumter, at a distance of 3000 yards. The firing on both sides continued incessant until five o'clock, when it diminished. The Ironsides and Keokuk withdrew from the engagement at four, apparently disabled. The Confederate monitors went out to take part in the fight. The casualties in Fort Sumter were one boy killed and five men wounded. The casualties in the other batteries are unknown. On the following day seven monitors and the Ironsides were inside the bar. Twenty-two of the blockading vessels were off the bar. The Keokuk was sunk on the beach off Morris Island. There was no disposition on the part of the Federals to renew the conflict.

General Grant was reported to have placed a battery of 84-pounders beyond the levee, in a position to reach Vicksburg easily, and was about to open the bombardment. A new canal, eight miles long, had been commenced across the peninsula near Vicksburg, beyond the range of the Confederate batteries. Admiral Farragut held the Mississippi from Port Hudson to Vicksburg. The *Richmond Whig* asserts that the Federals had withdrawn their troops from the peninsula opposite Vicksburg, and had cut the levee, turning the water into their old camping-ground.

Admiral Porter's official report of his attempt to reach Yazoo by way of the Sunflower River had been published. During eight days he worked his way up with his gun-boats only seventy miles and back again. The channels were exceedingly narrow and filled with obstructions. The expedition was finally checked when within 800 yards of the point Admiral Porter desired to reach. He estimates that the Confederates burned 20,000 bales of cotton along his route, besides what he himself burned. Many planters are said to have manifested affection for the Federal flag, and the negroes were unanimous in devotion to it. Confederate despatches from Fort Pemberton, dated the 5th inst., state that the Federals had embarked on their steamers, and were in full retreat.

The Confederates had burnt two Federal steamers on the Tennessee River, and had captured the Diana in the Atchafalaya River. The Confederates under Van Dorn had attacked the Federals at Franklin, Tennessee, and, after two hours' fighting, retreated, leaving their dead on the field.

The Confederates, under Generals Hill and Pettigrew, 10,000 strong, had surrounded Washington, North Carolina, which was occupied by the Federal force under General Foster, variously estimated at from 2000 to 4000 strong. The Confederates erected a battery five miles below Washington, commanding the channel between that place and Newbern, thus cutting off the Federal communications with Newbern. General Foster sent to Newbern for reinforcements, and several gun-boats started, but one only had passed the Confederate batteries below Washington, while the others were repulsed, and one is reported as captured by the Confederates. General Hill had notified General Foster to remove the women and children, as he was going to shell the city. Some accounts state that Washington had been burnt, but do not state by whom.

Southern journals state that General Banks, with 10,000 men, had left New Orleans and gone down Bayou Plaquemine to reinforce Weitzel and attack the Bayou Teche country.

A Federal expedition to Pontchartroula and Pass Manchac was reported to be successful. The Federals had occupied both places.

The Confederates had crossed the Rio Grande into Mexico and captured two Federal officers and three privates. The Mexican authorities, however, having demanded the surrender of the prisoners, they were all released, except one, who was reported to have been hung by the Confederates.

GENERAL NEWS.

The *New York Tribune* asserts that the relations of the Federal Government with England is the topic of anxious interest in official and unofficial circles at Washington.

Governor Todd, of Ohio, had been arrested by the Sheriff of Fairfield County, in that State, for kidnapping, or illegally imprisoning, Dr. Olds, a member of the Legislature. He was taken before Judge Johnston on a writ of habeas corpus, and admitted to bail to answer the charge before the Court of Common Pleas in June next.

Symptoms of insubordination having manifested themselves among a Massachusetts cavalry regiment at Boston, one of the mutineers was killed by the Colonel.

A mob of 3000 women, armed with clubs and stones, assembled on Thursday, the 2nd inst., and broke open the Government stores, Richmond, taking away bread and clothing and whatever else they required. Mr. Jefferson Davis and other high officials addressed the crowd, and succeeded with some difficulty in persuading it to disperse. There had also been a bread riot at Petersburg.

The joint Committee of both Houses of Congress on the conduct of the war had presented their report. It censures General McClellan's whole military course from his appointment to the command of the army of the Potomac, and points to him as the cause of the failure of the army to take Richmond. General Burnside's plans for dis-

lodging the Confederates at Fredericksburg subsequently to his defeat in December are declared to have been thwarted by the interference of the President, who gave ear to prejudicial statements against General Burnside from subordinate officers, and countermanded his orders for an advance. The report concludes by stating the belief of the Committee that the rebellion can be subdued only by fighting, and their confidence that the present campaign will produce decisive victories to the Federal arms.

The prize British steamer *Dolphin*, captured by the Federal steamer *Wachusset*, had arrived at Havanah.

DESTRUCTION OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, BY THE FEDERALS.

The town of Jacksonville, Florida, has been burnt by the Federal forces under Colonel Rust. A correspondent of the *New York Tribune* gives the following account of this wanton piece of vandalism:—

Jacksonville is in ruins. That beautiful city, which has been for so many years the favourite resort for invalids from the North, has to-day (March 28) been burnt to the ground by the soldiers of the national army. Scarcely a mansion, a cottage, a negro hut, or warehouse remains. The long lines of magnificent oaks, green and beautiful, with the thickest foliage, the orange-groves perfuming the air with their blossoms, the sycamores, the old century plants adorning every garden, the palmetto and bayonet trees, ever tropical in verdure, the rose and the jessamine—all that at this season, indeed through all seasons, has made Jacksonville a little Eden, has been burnt, and scorched, and crisped, if not entirely consumed to ashes, by the devouring flames. Three gun-boats—the *Paul Jones*, the *Norwich*, and the *John Adams*—are lying out in the river, with guns pointed, ready to fire the moment a rebel appears in sight. The transport-vessels—the *Boston*, the *Delavan*, the *General Meigs*, the *Tillie*, and the *Cossack*—are at the wharfs filled with troops. All are on board, except about 200 of the 6th Connecticut, who are on picket duty. Three blank shots from the *Paul Jones* have just been fired, as a signal for them to come in. The scene presented to the spectator is one of the most fearful magnificence. On every side, from every quarter of the city, dense clouds of black smoke and flame are bursting through the mansions and warehouses. A fine south wind is blowing immense blazing cinders right into the heart of the city. The beautiful Spanish moss, drooping so gracefully from the long avenues of splendid oaks, has caught fire, and as far as the eye can reach through these once pleasant streets nothing but sheets of flame can be seen, running off with the rapidity of lightning to the tops of the trees and then darting off to the smallest branches. The whole city, mansions, warehouses, trees, shrubbery, and orange-groves—all that refined taste and art through many years have made beautiful and attractive—are being lapped up and devoured by this howling, fiery blast. One solitary woman, a horse tied to a fence between two fires, and a lean, half-starved dog are the only living inhabitants to be seen on the streets. Fifty families, most of them professing Union sentiments, have been taken on board of the transports and provided with such accommodations as the tubs will afford. Some of them have been able to save a bed and a few chairs, but most of them have nothing in the world but the clothes upon their backs. Is not this war, vindictive, unrelenting war? Have we not got up to the European standard? Yesterday the beautiful little cottage used as the Catholic parsonage, together with the church, was fired by some of the soldiers, and in a short time burnt to the ground. Before the flames had fairly reached the church the soldiers burst open the doors, and commenced sacking it of everything of value. The organ was in a moment torn to strips, and almost every soldier who came out seemed to be celebrating the occasion by blowing through an organ-pipe. To-day the same spectacle has been repeated, only upon a much grander scale. There must have been some understanding among the incendiaries with regard to the conflagration. At eight o'clock the flames burst from several buildings in different parts of the city, and at a later hour still more were fired. The wind then rose to a stiff gale, and the torch of the incendiary became unnecessary to increase the fire. The only mansions of any value left standing as we move down the river are the elegant mansions of Colonel Sanderson and Judge Barritt, both rebels and scoundrels of the deepest dye. Why so much property known to belong to Union men should have been destroyed and the mansions of these notorious rebels left standing it is hard to understand. The negro troops took no part whatever in the perpetration of this vandalism. The 6th Connecticut Regiment charge it upon the 8th Maine, and the 8th Maine hurl the accusation back upon the 6th Connecticut.

THE FEDERAL ATTACK ON PORT HUDSON.

The *New Orleans Era* of March 13 gives the following account of the late naval attack on Port Hudson:—

The fleet of Admiral Farragut was composed of the following ships:—The *Hartford* (flagship), Captain Palmer; Richmond, Commander Alden; Mississippi, Commander Smith; Monongahela, Captain M'Kinstry; Genesee, Captain Macomb; Albatross, Lieutenant-Commander Hart; Kinio, Lieutenant-Commander Waters. These vessels were designed to attack the batteries in the order enumerated below:—The *Hartford*, with the *Albatross* made fast to her port side; the *Richmond*, with the *Genesee* on her port side; the *Monongahela*, with the *Kinio* on her port side; the *Mississippi* being alone. The mortar fleet, which consisted of six schooners, the ironclad *Essex*, and the gun-boat *Sachem*, the whole under Commander Caldwell, of the *Essex*, proceeded on Friday evening to within shelling distance of the rebel batteries, where they remained at last accounts. At a quarter past nine o'clock on the night of the 14th, every preparation having been made for an advance, a signal was made from the flagship for the fleet to get under way, the fleet at this time being at an hour off the head of Profit Island, within three miles of the enemy's works. The enemy were only apprised of the intentions of the fleet by rockets, which were sent up from the shore opposite Port Hudson. As soon as the *Hartford* came within range of the batteries they opened a brisk fire upon her. She returned the fire by a whole broadside, and continued pouring shot and shell into the enemy's works until she had succeeded in passing the batteries. When last seen, the *Hartford* was steaming up the river in gallant style. The *Richmond*, the next ship in line of battle, followed the motions of the flagship, passed the principal batteries, and had just rounded the point, when a shot passed through her steam-chest, temporarily disabling her, and compelling Commander Alden to drop down stream. Her executive officer, Lieutenant-Commander A. B. Cummings, was standing on the bridge, encouraging and cheering the men, when a shot from the rebel batteries struck his left leg below the knee, severing it from his body and knocking him from his post. Commander Alden, who was standing beside him, was knocked from the bridge by a hammock displaced by the same shot which wounded Mr. Cummings; but he fortunately sustained no injury. The loss on the *Richmond* was three killed and ten wounded. A boatswain's mate, who had both his legs, his right arm, and left hand cut off by the explosion of a shell, as he fell to the deck with his last breath exclaimed, in language worthy of a Lawrence, "Don't give up the ship, lads!" The only casualty among the officers of the *Richmond* was that of Lieutenant-Commander Cummings. The ship received several shots in her hull, but was only temporarily disabled. The *Genesee*, which was alongside the *Richmond*, being unable to stem the current with her in tow, was obliged to drop down stream with her. She had three men slightly wounded. The *Monongahela* and the *Kinio* were next in the action, and was carried below. The command of the vessel devolving upon Lieutenant Thomas, a young and gallant officer, he essayed to follow the flagship; but, from the dense smoke which enveloped the ship, the pilots were unable to keep the channel, and the ship grounded directly under fire of the principal batteries, where she remained backing her engines for twenty-five minutes. She finally succeeded in getting off, through the exertions of the *Kinio*, which was handled in a most admirable manner, although her rudder was jammed by a shot between the rudder and sternpost, rendering the vessel almost unmanageable. Having succeeded in gaining deep water, the *Monongahela* steamed up the river, when, her crankpin becoming heated, she was unable to proceed, and dropped down to the position of the mortar fleet. The loss on the *Monongahela* was six killed and twenty wounded, including several officers. No loss has been reported on the *Kinio*. The *Mississippi*, in obedience to the order of Admiral Farragut, brought up the rear. She had reached the point directly opposite the town, and her officers were congratulating themselves upon having passed through the greater danger, the ship up to this time not having sustained a single casualty. The *Monongahela* not being in sight, orders were given to increase the speed, in order to close up the space between the ships. The atmosphere being humid, the smoke hanging close to the surface of the river, and nothing being discernible but the flashes of our own and the enemy's pieces, the ship, which had acquired rapid headway, grounded on the right bank of the river, directly opposite the terminus of the Port Hudson and Clinton Railroad. Her engines were immediately reversed, and orders were given by Captain Smith for the men to fire with all possible rapidity, as their safety depended upon keeping the enemy from their guns. The men responded with alacrity, and in the short space of thirty-five minutes they fired 250 shots. During this time Engineer Rutherford made every exertion to get the ship afloat, but without success. Captain Smith, finding it impossible to save his vessel, gave orders to make instant preparations to destroy the ship and save the crew. Orders were also given to the chief engineer to destroy the engines and cut the outward connecting pipes. This being done, the water flowed rapidly into the ship. The sick and wounded were conveyed on board the iron-clad *Essex*, and the remainder of the crew were conveyed to the right bank of the river, which had been cleared by the gun-boats of rebel sharpshooters. Before the crew left the ship every preparation was made to destroy her, by collecting combustibles in the forward and after parts of the ship. Unfortunately she was fired forward before the order was given. This becoming known to the crew, and there being but three small boats which they could use, many jumped overboard, and it is feared were drowned in attempting to escape. Some others, seven in all, including Marine Captain Fontene, Assistant Engineer Brown, and Master's Mate Francis fell into the hands of the enemy. Just before the order was given to abandon the ship a shot from the enemy entered forward of the wheel, killing Acting Master Kelly, commanding second division, also killing and wounding

all but four men at one of his guns. After seeing that the survivors of his crew were fairly clear of the ship, and every preparation made to ensure her destruction, Commander Smith, attended by Lieutenant Dewey, his executive officer, Ensign Bachelor, and first Assistant Engineer Tower, left the ship and abandoned her to the flames, after having with his own hands spiked most of the guns. As an evidence of the coolness which Captain Smith displayed on this occasion, it is related that in the midst of the death and destruction which surrounded him, while coolly lighting his cigar with steel and flint, he remarked to Lieutenant Dewey "It is not likely that we shall escape, and we must make every preparation to ensure the destruction of the ship." As soon as Captain Caldwell, of the *Essex*, discovered the flames bursting from the *Mississippi*, notwithstanding she was five hundred yards off the principal rebel batteries, he steamed up the river and succeeded in taking off from the shore many of the men who had escaped, and in saving many who were still struggling with the current for their lives. The fire, having full possession of the ship, raged through her for an hour, greatly lightening her, while the water, flowing aft, settled her stern, and she gradually slid off into the current. By a seeming act of Providence, the ship was swung round by the force of the current, and headed down stream. The guns of her port battery, which had not been fired, becoming heated, the venerable old frigate paid a parting salute to the rebels at the same time that she fired the minute guns over her own grave. Had the ship floated down stream stream foremost it is impossible to conjecture what would have been the result, inasmuch as her guns would have been discharged on her own crew on the neighbouring bank. She floated down the stream, her guns discharging, and shells on deck exploding in every direction, until half-past five o'clock, when, having reached a point near which the rebel ram *Arkansas* was destroyed, she blew up with a concussion which shook the country for miles around. Fragments of the ship drifted past Baton Rouge, and one of the wheelhouses was taken ashore at that point. It is estimated that only sixty-five officers and men belonging to the *Mississippi* were killed, wounded, and taken prisoners. The officers and crew lost everything except what they stood in. They saved nothing, and left nothing in the hands of the rebels.

THE PROVINCES.

DISTURBANCES AT PRESTON.—There has been another disturbance in the manufacturing districts. The workpeople at Preston were dissatisfied with the work allotted to them, and, though they all assembled at the place where the work was to be done, not more than a hundred engaged in it. The guardians of the poor refused to pay any but those who did their allotted tasks, and the consequence was that on Tuesday night a mob assembled in the streets, and the windows of the police office, &c., were broken.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A shocking accident occurred on Saturday last at a tin and copper mine near Penzance, in Cornwall. The mine of Botallack is one of the largest in that part of the country; the large portion of its workings is under the bed of the Atlantic; and it is entered by a diagonal shaft 180 fathoms deep, which slopes down at the steep angle of 35 degrees. The ores and the workmen are drawn up this slope by a wagon attached by a chain to the steam-engine at the top. On Saturday evening ten men were coming up in a wagon, and had nearly reached the top, when the chain snapped, and the men, taken so by surprise that they had no power to apply the brakes, were hurled to the bottom and killed on the spot.

THE CROPS IN SOUTH WALES.—The agricultural prospects of South Wales are more encouraging than has been the case for many years. The mildness of the winter and the favourable weather which has prevailed since the commencement of the spring quarter have materially aided vegetation, and nearly every description of farming produce is in a more advanced state than is usual at this time of the year. The hundreds of kitchen gardens in the mining districts look equally as favourable, and it is expected that if the weather continues moderately propitious the result will be a reduction in price in many articles of consumption.

THE ALEXANDRIA.—The case of the steam-ship *Alexandria*, now exchequered by the Government on suspicion of being a Confederate gun-boat, is the principal topic of conversation in Liverpool, as it is felt that the most serious results to business will ensue until the alleged infringements of the Foreign Enlistment Act are promptly, clearly, and definitively decided upon. It is argued that, if the present uncertainty is to continue, shipbuilders, manufacturers, shipowners, &c., will hesitate to accept contracts. This will lead to the discharge of men, and naturally to an increase of the present distress among the working classes. It was rumoured on 'Change' on Tuesday, that the Government had postponed their charges against the builders of the *Alexandria* for a brief period. Messrs. Fletcher and Hall, the legal agents for Messrs. Miller and Co., intend to apply to the Government for permission to complete the construction of the *Alexandria*.

MELANCHOLY BOAT ACCIDENT.—Three lives were lost on the River Wey, near Guildford, on Saturday afternoon. Two gentlemen engaged a boat for a row on the river, and, as neither of them were expert oarsmen, a young waterman, named Wheatley, accompanied them. Some time afterwards the boat was found on the river bottom upwards, the drags were put into requisition, and brought the bodies of the three men to the surface.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON on Monday completed his fifty-fifth year.

THE BIRMINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL has, after a long and warm debate, voted a sum of £800 for building a Roman Catholic chapel in the Borough Cemetery by a majority of 24 against 21.

THE IMPERIAL COURT OF MONTPELLIER has recently been called on to hear an appeal, in which the point in dispute was the question whether a frog is a fish? The judgment was affirmative.

ADDRESSES TO THE PRINCE OF WALES.—The Prince and Princess of Wales received addresses of congratulation from the City and the two Universities, at Marlborough House, on Wednesday. The Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, and other members of the deputation went in State from the Guildhall to St. James's, and the bells of the City churches rang merry peals in the course of the afternoon. His Royal Highness will receive further addresses from Corporations and others on Wednesday next, the 29th, at Marlborough House.

THE GRAND DUKE MICHAEL NEARLY TAKEN BY THE CIRCASSIANS.—The Circassians having learned that the Grand Duke Michael had arrived at Fort Abbe (near Anapa), situated on the frontier, and that he intended to repair to Fort Chebiz, pursued him with cavalry. They came up with him, and a battle took place. It was only with great difficulty and the greatest danger that the Grand Duke succeeded in throwing himself into the fort. In this battle the Russians lost many officers and soldiers. A quantity of arms, horses, and baggage has fallen into the hands of the Circassians. The Grand Duke and his troops are at Chebiz. The Circassians are concentrating their forces at a little distance from that place.

FEDERAL PERMITS.—In the course of a conversation last week between Earl Russell and a deputation of shipowners and others interested in the trade with Mexico, it was stated that the following singular document had been exhibited at Lloyd's as an inducement to the underwriters to undertake insurances on the vessel referred to on better terms than those current for like risks, under the possibility of capture by Federal cruisers:—"Legation of the United States, London, April 9, 1863.—Amid the multitude of fraudulent and dishonest enterprises from this kingdom to furnish supplies to the rebels in the United States, through the pretence of a destination to some port in Mexico, it gives me pleasure to distinguish one which has a different and a creditable purpose. Messrs. Howell and Zirman have furnished me with evidence which is perfectly satisfactory to me that they are really bound to Matamoros with a cargo intended for the Mexicans. I therefore very cheerfully give them this certificate at their request. It is not the disposition of the Government of the United States to interfere in any way with an honest neutral trade, and it is deeply to be regretted that the frauds which have been so extensively practised in this country have been tributed so much to throw it under suspicion.—CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Admiral Dupont, &c."

BALLOON ASCENT.—On Saturday last Messrs. Glaisher and Coxwell made a balloon ascent from the Crystal Palace, and reached an altitude of 4½ miles. The wind was due north, and the balloon was carried so rapidly towards the coast that the aeronauts were compelled to make a rapid descent to avoid falling into the sea. As it was, by dint of coming to the ground at more than express railway speed, they were just able to alight on the extreme verge of the land.

"DIVINE RIGHT" NOTIONS IN PRUSSIA.—M. de Gerlach, a Prussian Judge, a writer in the *Kreuz Zeitung*, and a man of great literary reputation in Germany, lately made a speech in the Evangelical Society of Berlin, in which he argued that "the rights of a Sovereign, by the grace of God, must not be confounded with those of any secondary authorities, not even with those of the father of a family. Every right must give way to the Royal prerogative. The Royal right can neither be diminished by opposing rights, nor by treaties, traditions, constitutions, nor catha. It is immutable, and all resistance to it, whether active or passive, is unjust and wicked."

THE POLISH RESIDENTS IN PARIS have presented an address to Prince Napoleon, thanking him for his sympathy with Poland, which, they add, "can only increase from attacks which confer honour when they emanate from accomplices of foreign domination, from men who are justly branded by you as history will brand them." This allusion is to the challenge lately sent to the Prince by the younger Wielopolski.

THE RECEPTION OF THE FRENCH CONSUL AT ALEXANDRIA.

OUR Engraving represents the scene which may be said to have closed a most awkward misunderstanding with the French Consul, which was amongst the first of the difficulties that beset the new Viceroy of Egypt on his assuming the Government.

After the death of Said Pacha, who was peculiarly attached to all sorts of European improvements, and looked up to France with

great respect, many of the adherents of the older system believed that the country would in a great measure be restored (if such a word can be used to express the process) to its old habits and its old prejudices, and the rule of the fanatic party again established.

It would appear that some remarks in the addresses of Ismail Pacha gave a colour to these expectations, and were interpreted to mean that he blamed the European tendencies of his predecessor for many of the disadvantages under which the country was suffering. The result, at all events, was a sudden excitement amongst the Arabs. The speeches of the Consuls-General and the new Viceroy had been delivered in French, but a translation made by some unlucky interpreter was soon circulated in all the Arab quarters of Cairo and Alexandria. The translation was probably made in all good faith, but it was afterwards interpreted by the party who had instituted the massacres of Damascus and of Jedda, who gave it a peculiar meaning to the common people. Their explanation of the present policy was in effect that the reign of the Christian Pacha was at an end, that the head of the true faith had at last arrived, and that, in consequence, all the Europeans would come to grief and be compelled to return to their own accursed country.

These sentiments, once repeated to the excitable crowd which they were intended to influence, soon began to find new and energetic expression in cries of "Down with the Christians!" "Death to the infidels!" and similar exclamations became the *mots d'ordre* of all the fanatic Mussulmans.

Soon afterwards, several Europeans belonging to different nations were molested and insulted, both in Cairo and Alexandria; but these outrages were not at first attributed to the demonstrations of a party. Still there was great agitation amongst the European residents, and they all began to understand their danger when a brutal attack was made upon M. Conseil, a French gentleman, who seems to have been chosen as the first victim of the fanatics.

Five hours after the accession of Ismail Pacha, M. Conseil, a young man of the utmost loyalty and good-fellowship, who came towards the gate on horseback, was struck down and dismounted by an Arab soldier, and, before he could recover himself, was assailed on all sides by a furious mob with a party of soldiers at its head. M. Conseil, although an invalid, made a vigorous resistance, and carried on the unequal conflict; but a cord was thrown round his neck, and he was dragged into the dirt and pelted with mud, amidst cries of "Death to the Christians!" "To the sea with him!" Happily for him, a diversion was produced by their coming suddenly upon a police post, where, by the assistance of the officers, he was released through the intervention of M. de Beauval, the Consul-General.

At about the same time very similar attacks were being made in other quarters. At Cairo, M. de Saint Chaffray, the French Councillor, was threatened and struck, the Prussian Vice-Consul received a blow on the head, and a French artist was beaten by the soldiers. At Alexandria several English residents, as well as some Greeks and Belgians, were insulted, and in some cases severely injured, in different quarters of the city, some of them close to the Consulate; while in the evening an excited crowd paced before the door of the French Consul, carrying emblems insulting to the Christians. Seeing that not only his countrymen but the whole European colony was in danger, M. de Beauval at once repaired to the Governor and demanded a complete and formal reparation.

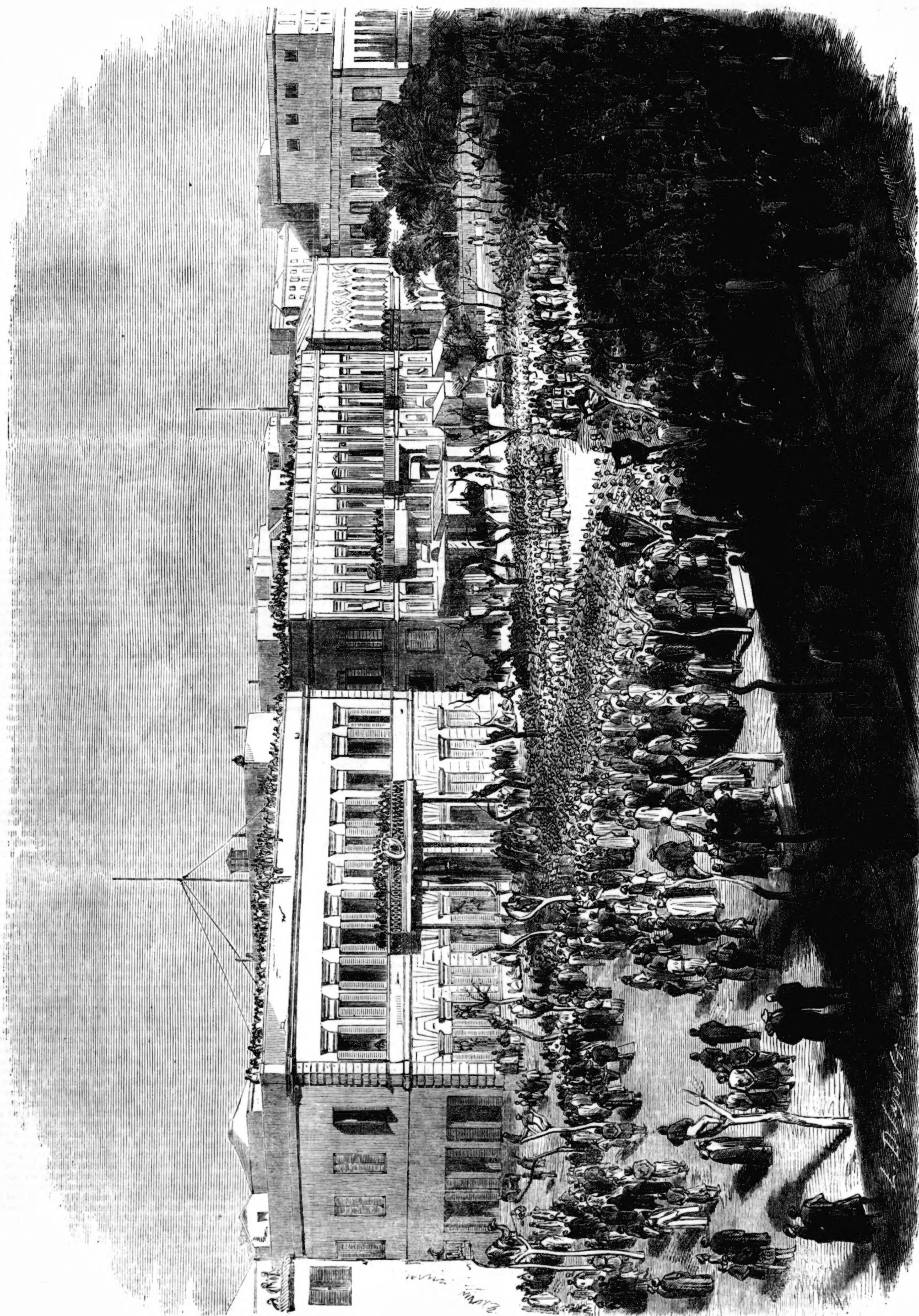
The most culpable of the officers and soldiers were to be degraded, and publicly exposed in the square before the Consulate, and afterwards to be condemned to the galleys; and the Consul declared that this demand should be complied with in twenty-four hours, or he would call upon all the French soldiers and marines who were in the port to land for the protection of their countrymen and other Europeans. The Governor at once made known these demands to the Viceroy, who flatly refused the reparation. To the renewed and more urgent demands of M. de Beauval, he replied from Cairo that he had set out for Alexandria, and promised that a more complete satisfaction than that demanded should be given. During the whole of the following day the Arabs continued to insult the Europeans both in Cairo and Alexandria. The Viceroy arrived in the latter city to find the place in a ferment, the crowd becoming more excited, the Europeans more anxious, and a larger mob collecting before the French Consulate. At last a message was dispatched to the effect that the demands for satisfaction should be complied with in the afternoon, and at two o'clock the crowd assembled before the Consulate was broken by a battalion of Egyptian infantry, which came out from the palace preceded by a cavas detachment to clear the road. In the midst walked the officer who had been found guilty of leading the attack, stripped of his military ornaments, and so weak (from a private application of the bastinado) that he had to be supported on each side. After him came the two soldiers most prominent in the tumult completely bound in chains. Another detachment of cavases brought up the rear. The column formed before the Consulate, and the prisoners, surrounded by their guards, were kept there for three-quarters of an hour, in accordance with the demands of M. de Beauval, who, being unwilling to prolong so painful a scene beyond the time necessary to assert his determination, gave the order for them to be removed, and at the same time hoisted his flag, which was greeted with cheers by all the Europeans present. The culprits were taken to prison, and were thence sent to work out the remainder of their sentence.

THE SLAVE PROCLAMATION.

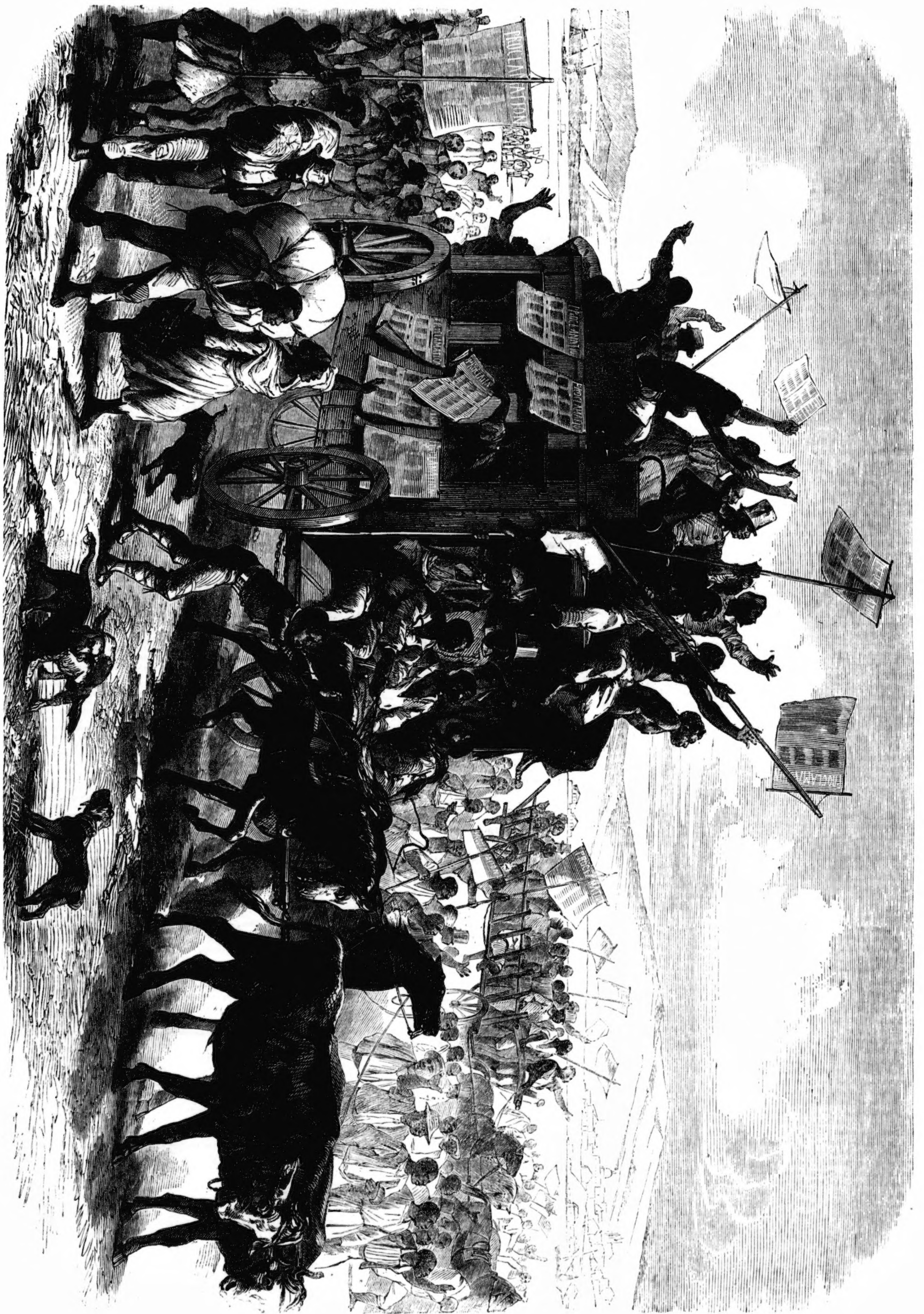
THE proclamation by President Lincoln announcing the abolition of slavery has not produced altogether the effect that was intended in the Southern States. Upon the greater number of slaveholders it has fallen like oil upon the flames, and has raised a spirit of vengeance and retaliation which can, perhaps, scarcely be wondered at in the circumstances. But, while this measure has only had the effect of exciting some to greater detestation of the Northern policy, it has opened the eyes of many proprietors, and led them to display a sagacity which was certainly not expected of them. Yielding to what the French now call the inexorable logic of events, they have come out of the situation with a dignity which does them credit, by agreeing themselves to give liberty to their slaves. A considerable number of the planters in Tennessee, Arkansas, and Louisiana called their slaves together and addressed them in language the most moderate and reasonable. One of these, Mr. Aiken, of Tennessee, the proprietor of a large cotton plantation containing 400 slaves, told them that they were called together in order to receive their liberty, and that they would not regret the measure if they consented to remain with their master. Several of them, he said, had grown old in service, and many others had proved their fidelity under very difficult circumstances; at all events, they were necessary to the masters as workers on the plantations, and if they would remain should receive reasonable wages, and should enjoy from that day the control of their own domestic affairs and the right of forming independent social ties and instituting a system of education for their children. In answer to this appeal all the former slaves remained and resumed their work with an ardour and goodfaith of which it was believed they were scarcely susceptible.

The Dean of Louisiana planters, Mr. Maunsel White, who has for more than half a century directed two immense plantations, was the first who there gave the example of voluntarily liberating his slaves. To the question broached at a public reunion, "What are we to do with four millions of free negroes?" he immediately replied, "What are we to do without them?"

All the slaveowners, however, have not displayed the same sagacity, and in all the districts in proximity to the Federal lines, numbers of slaves have met and gone to claim the rights accorded them by the proclamation of the 1st of January. The slaves of central and northern Virginia have quitted their masters, carrying with them their personal effects, and obtaining the services of coaches and omnibuses for removing their families. Northern Virginia has presented the spectacle of numerous bands of slaves (men and women) travelling under the protection of the "proclamation," which has had the effect of deepening the distrust between the Rappahannock and the Potomac. It is one of the scenes that presented itself upon the road from Winchester, and at a short distance from that town, which is reproduced in our illustration. The same results have appeared, but in a manner less marked, in North and South Carolina and Louisiana.



EXPOSURE IN FRONT OF THE FRENCH EMBASSY OF THE RINGLEADERS IN THE RECENT ATTACK ON EUROPEAN RESIDENTS AT ALEXANDRIA.



NEGROES FROM THE SOUTH, WITH PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S PROCLAMATION, ON THEIR WAY TO THE FEDERAL QUARTERS.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 208.

STRANGERS ON THE BUDGET NIGHT.

The Budget night has always been considered an important occasion, and well it may be so; for then it is that the treasurer of the empire presents to the people the result of his stocktaking—shows us what we have spent, what we have in hand, what he will want to carry on the concern during the next year, and how he proposes to get the money. But, important as all this may be, we remember Budgets which were by no means attractive to strangers. Sir Charles Wood, when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer, did not draw full houses, and poor Sir George Lewis was not specially attractive. Indeed, we do not recollect that any of our Chancellors ever crammed the house as Mr. Gladstone does. We do not believe that Peel himself drew such crowds, except when it was known that he was about to propose the repeal of the corn laws; and Gladstone seems to get more attractive than ever. Certainly on no former occasion has there been such a crowd of applicants as we had down on Thursday night. Before the doors of the palace were opened there were people waiting for admission. As early as seven o'clock in the morning several gentlemen with orders were in St. Stephen's Hall; and hours before the time there were three times as many people in waiting as the gallery will hold. All this is curious enough. If there were—as was the case a hundred years ago—no reporters in the gallery; if these strangers could not see the speech in the papers verbatim, word for word and figure for figure, as it is delivered, this anxiety would be intelligible enough; but that men should waste a whole day in waiting to hear what all may read a few hours afterwards, is, to say the least of it, something curious. But it is not uncommon, though; for, whilst thousands rush to hear a popular preacher, how few would think of reading his sermon? Men like to see the performer, to hear the ring of his voice, to feel the power of his eloquence, to watch its effect upon the audience; and then, again, there is something in being able to say that they have seen and heard the eminent man.

SPECULATORS IN THE LOBBY.

The lobby, too, was crowded, as well as the galleries; but we rather think, from what we heard and observed, that most of the people here were specially interested in the revelations about to be made. There were tea merchants, or their agents, in considerable numbers. It had been rumoured that Gladstone would reduce the duty upon tea, and these gentlemen, or their employers, had speculated to a large amount for the rise which inevitably follows immediately upon the reduction of a tax. We have heard of one merchant who purchased 7000 chests, and cleared by the change some £20,000. We may be sure that he was represented here. His representative would hardly care, however, to get into the gallery. He would prefer to wait at the door of the house to catch the intelligence from some member as soon as possible after it dropped from the lips of the Chancellor, and then rush off as fast as a hansom cab could carry him to inform his employer. Sugar merchants were also present; for up to the last it was doubtful whether Gladstone would favour tea or sugar, or divide the reduction between the two. "There is to be a reduction of fivepence on tea," said a messenger of the House as he came into the lobby. "And what on sugar?" asked an anxious inquirer. "Nothing this year," was the reply. "What, nothing on sugar? are you sure?" "Quite," "By Jove! you don't say so. What's to be done now, Tom?" turning round to his companion. What the answer was did not reach the ears of our informant; but it was evident from the cloud that came over the faces of these gentlemen that they had gone in largely for a rise upon sugar. The "witters," too, were represented here. They have been so often bit of late by this meddling Chancellor of the Exchequer, that, through their agents, they are now always on the watch. Nor did they watch in vain; for Gladstone has planted another blow in the wind-chest of these much persecuted gentlemen. Two years ago he ruled that wine merchants should be allowed to sell single bottles of wine and spirits; and now he proposes that porter and beer merchants shall be permitted to sell single bottles of porter and beer. "I'll tell you what it is," said an irate "witter," "this Chancellor of the Chequer of yours, it's my belief, has got a spite against us publicans, and means to ruin us. He will take away all our quiet trade and leave nothing but the troublesome behind;" and then there came out an emphatic denunciation, which, however, we need not repeat. This is the temper in which the "witters" receive the Budget. "Blow his reduction of the income tax," said another; "why, I get more out of single bottles of beer than I pay for income tax." But, somehow, the public don't sympathise with these angry individuals. It seems no reason why it should give a shilling for a reputed quart of bad beer when it might, but for legal restrictions, get a better article for sixpence or eightpence of the merchant round the corner. But we will leave the lobby and enter the house.

THE SCENE INSIDE.

It is half-past four o'clock. See how full the house is; every seat below is occupied, and even the side galleries are filled with members. Palmerston, you will note, is in his place; and Sir Charles Wood, and Cardwell, and Milner Gibson—and, in short, all the Government. Even Brand has squeezed himself on to the Treasury Bench. He is, as you know, the whip, and when a division is expected his place is at the door; but there will be no division to-night, whatever the Budget may be. Do you see Cobden? He sits just below the gangway. If you did not know him before you may easily discover him now. Yes, the gentleman with the pale, thoughtful face and very long hair. He has let his hair grow of late until it hangs almost on to his shoulders. Bright is not here; an interesting domestic event in prospect keeps him at home. The great, burly, bearded man below Cobden is Mr. White, of Brighton. I take it he means to speak, from the bundle of papers by his side. Rumour says that he has been going deeply into the state of the revenue, and foretells a surplus of £3,500,000. We shall soon see whether he is right. Cast your eye now on the other side. Disraeli, of course, you know. He does not look very pleased, you say. Well, he looks as he always looks. You may save yourself the trouble of watching that imperturbable face, for you will gather nothing thence. No emotion, hardly any movement, is ever discernible there. The dapper little man with the Roman nose is Sir John Pakington. Sir John has been exceedingly quiet this Session; but so have all the Opposition leaders, for that matter. Derby, Disraeli, Pakington, and Northcote have been, as a rule, as mute as fishes. There must be some reason for this silence, if we could but make it out. That is Northcote, the man with the sandy hair and beard, next to Dizzy. You see he has already prepared a sheet of paper, and set a pen and ink near him; and as soon as Gladstone begins, Sir Stafford will ply his pen as diligently as you reporters in the gallery. Dizzy takes no notes. Why should he, when his dragoman by his side will do it so well? See, the messenger has brought in Gladstone's boxes from behind the chair, and soon we shall see the great performer himself; and here he comes, evidently none the worse for his fling the other day, except that the black patch upon the bridge of his nose somewhat spoils his face. As he rises to commence his task, mark how silent the House has become, and how through all the doors the absent members are gliding in, but so quietly, that you might fancy they are shod with velvet.

THE CHANCELLOR'S SPEECH.

It was five o'clock when the Chancellor of the Exchequer began; it was about eight when he sat down. For two hours and a half he held the House in rapt attention. Scarcely a man moved during the whole of that time. But at half-past seven he had made his revelations, and then some members, impatient for dinner, began to move off. The great bulk, however, stopped till the close of his peroration, losing the poet-time and hazy cold dinners rather than miss a word of this surpassingly-eloquent and consummately-able speech. Some have said that this was not so great a speech as that which Mr. Gladstone delivered in 1861. It would puzzle, however, the critics to say wherein it fell short. There was the same admirable art in the arrangement of the speech; the same eloquent, clear, and expressive language; and the same graceful, easy, and effective manner. To our mind these Budget speeches of Mr. Gladstone are marvellous

studies. We do not believe that you would find anything like them if you were to search Hansard through. There are great, eloquent, and effective speeches there; but you will find that, almost without exception, the Budget speeches are very dry and uninteresting performances, except for the facts which they contain, and they were dull and unattractive at the time when they were delivered. Gladstone is the only man that can, or ever could, conduct his hearers over these arid deserts of finance and keep them cheerful and lively, and unflinchingly interested the while. He alone, by the magic powers of his eloquence, can make this thorny wilderness glad and this arid desert bloom. We have heard Peel and Wood, and Russell and Disraeli, and Lewis in our time. Peel's Budget speeches were ingenious and able performances, but they were awfully dry. Sir Charles Wood jerked along, like a carrier's cart without springs upon a heavy road. Lord John almost sent the House to sleep. Disraeli's notable speech was very clever, but he was quite out of his element in these financial regions, and wearied us out of all patience at last. Of Sir George Lewis, good man, we will say nothing just now. But Gladstone never wears you. Travelling with him is not like travelling in a jerking cart, nor by a stage-coach, nor even by the swift express-train, but rather like voyaging on the air in a balloon, or as Ganymede rode away to the court of Jove on the neck of the eagle. But we must leave this subject, for other matters await our attention.

WONDERFUL UNANIMITY.

We must not, however, fail to put on record one remarkable fact, the like of which has never occurred in our time before, nor in all time, as far as we know. The House of Commons is unanimous in its praise of the Budget; nobody has a word to say against it in its main features. It is agreed that there is a surplus; it is agreed that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has distributed the surplus well. There are one or two minor propositions which are open to criticism, and which will be criticised. Our Chancellor of the Exchequer is like the elephant—he can tear down an oak and pick up a pin; and some say he is quite as fond of picking up pins as he is of tearing down oaks. Well, he has picked up some trifles here, and will probably have to drop them again; but this he will do if required, we may be sure, without demur, as they will, whether held or dropped, have no effect upon his great scheme, and on that the House is unanimous. It is wonderful that it should be so; but so at present it is, and we have thought it right to record the remarkable event. Mr. Gladstone has silenced Disraeli—has extorted praise from Sir Stafford Northcote—Willoughby can do nothing more than doubt, and all the rest of the Opposition, if they do not join in the chorus of praise, are compelled at any rate to hold their peace.

A TEMPEST.

On Monday night we had a desperate row in the House—such a storm as we have not seen this Session—a regular equinoctial tempest. The occasion was the second reading of the Prison Ministers Bill—a bill for the payment of Roman Catholic priests for their attendance to minister to the spiritual necessities of Roman Catholic prisoners. The invoker of this tempest was the inevitable Mr. Whalley. When Mr. Newdegate arose attempts were made by certain gentlemen who wanted to go to dinner to put him down. But Mr. Newdegate is not to be put down. The experiment has often been tried, but has never been successful. Endowed with a powerful voice, inflexible will, and undaunted courage, Mr. Newdegate never gives way to storms like this. We have seen him stand there for several minutes together in the midst of a tempest which seemed to be powerful enough to blast him at once into his seat; but we never knew him conquered. Something, however, of his success may be owing to the fact that he is really held in high respect by the majority of the House, who, when they see him determined to speak, come to his rescue, and, by indignant shouts of "Order!" quell and abash his foes. But, however this may be, he is, as we have said, never put down; nor ought he to be, for Mr. Newdegate is a man of character, and of ability too; whilst his integrity and sincerity are so obvious that it is not credible, albeit he may rise at inconvenient times, to attempt to stifle his voice. And so Mr. Newdegate beat his foes, quelled the row, and gained a hearing for a very fervent, eloquent, and telling speech. But it was altogether another matter when Mr. Whalley rose after Newdegate. Newdegate the angry members might endure, although their dinners might be spoiling the while; but Whalley never. And so when the member for Peterborough rose there burst forth a hurricane, as if all the elements had broken loose; groans, hisses, yellings, in short every conceivable expression of distaste, contempt, and disgust, assailed that unfortunate man. Every now and then bursts of laughter varied the discord: once especially, when some one cried out at the top of his voice something about Whalley, and folly. What the couplet was we could not learn; but it amused the House greatly, particularly when the rhymster was called upon to "sing it." It is due, however, to Mr. Whalley to say that he stood his ground bravely, and for at least a quarter of an hour confronted the elements with unflinching courage. Nobody, however, heard two words that he said consecutively. We could see him gesticulating and looking defiantly and imploringly by turns on his foes; but the seamew might as well try to lift its tiny voice above the roaring of a storm in the Atlantic, as he attempt to force a passage for his words through that awful tempest to the Reporters' Gallery. Scarcely a word got up there; and, as nobody in the house could hear, all Mr. Whalley's eloquence was thrown away.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE JUDICIAL BENCH IN THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

Lord CHELMSFORD called attention to the removal of two of the Judges of the Supreme Council of Justice in the Ionian Islands. They had been removed without notice, and their removal was, he contended, perfectly illegal.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE argued that the course which had been taken was perfectly legal and constitutional.

The Earl of DERBY took the same view of the matter as Lord Chelmsford. After some further discussion, the matter dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE FOREIGN ENLISTMENT ACT.

Mr. COBDEN gave notice of his intention, on Friday, to invite the attention of the House to the motives of national self-interest, and the obligations of implied international engagements, by which the Government was called upon to vigilantly and rigidly enforce those provisions of the Foreign Enlistment Act which forbid the furnishing of ships of war to a belligerent Power, to be employed against another Power with which this country is at peace.

Sir F. SMITH brought forward a motion to the effect that the recommendations of the Harbours of Refuge Commissioners, so far as they applied to Waterford, Wick, and Padstow, be carried out. He contended that it was necessary on economical grounds, and for the saving of life, that harbours of refuge should be provided at those places.

The motion was seconded by Mr. KENDAL.

Sir J. HAY wished that Fife should be included in the motion.

Mr. M. GIBSON opposed the motion, which, after several other speakers had addressed the House, was negatived without a division.

UTILISATION OF SEWAGE.

Dr. BRADY, in a lengthy speech, called attention to the reports of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the best mode of utilising the sewage of towns. He contended that the commissioners had not carried out the purpose for which they were appointed, and that their report was in opposition to the evidence adduced.

Mr. KER SEYMOUR and Mr. COWPER defended the Commission, and after some discussion the matter dropped.

MONDAY, APRIL 20.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

LOSS OF THE ORPHEUS.

The Duke of SOMERSET, in answer to Lord Ellenborough, said the route taken by the Commander was the proper one, according to chart 53, but that chart had been revised in consequence of the shifting of the sand, and the information was communicated to all the naval officers on the station. On Saturday last he saw one of the officers saved from the wreck, who told him that when the ship was crossing the bar the Commander of the Orpheus held

in his hand the notice of the change which had taken place in the position of the bar.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The Illegitimate Children (Ireland) Bill, and the Courts of the Church of Scotland Bill, were respectively read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PRISON MINISTERS BILL.

Sir G. GREY, in moving the second reading of this bill, stated that the measure was the application to county and borough gaols of a principle which was already in operation in the Army and Navy. By returns before the house it appeared that a very large number of the prisoners in the county and borough gaols in England and Wales consisted of Irish Roman Catholics, and the object of the bill was to give facilities for enabling these prisoners to receive the religious instruction of ministers of their own communion with the approval of the visiting justices, and under certain conditions and restrictions.

Mr. H. G. LANGTON moved as an amendment that the bill be read a second time that day six months. By the law as it stood, under the "special request" section, Roman Catholic prisoners might see their own clergy, and in no instance where that request had been made had it been refused. But his objections to the principle of the bill rested upon far higher grounds: for since the period of the Reformation this was the first occasion on which Parliament had been called upon to sanction the appointment of priests paid out of the public money. He appealed to the great Conservative party, as the supporters of the Protestant religion and the Established Church, to pause ere they stamped with their approval this principle.

Colonel BARTELOTT seconded the amendment.

Mr. HENLEY could not agree that the bill was unnecessary and uncalled for. It was utterly unreasonable to expect that any priest, however zealous and kindhearted he might be, would attend and administer the rites of religion to some hundred or two hundred prisoners without any remuneration. The fair principle on which this measure should be judged was that of doing unto others as you would they should do unto you.

Mr. SELWYN opposed the bill on the ground that its real object was, and its certain effect would be, to give the Roman Catholic priesthood that status and position which they had so long coveted—a status and position recognised by the law, and which would be antagonistic to our Protestant institutions.

The bill was opposed by Mr. P. Wyndham and Mr. Lysley, and was supported by Lord E. Howard, Colonel Patten, and Mr. Baines.

Mr. DISRAELI observed that if he thought the bill had even a tendency to impair the authority of the Church of England he should oppose it; but he looked at the privileges of the Church as representing popular rights, and that was the real source of her strength. Whether they considered the influence of the bill on the status of the Church of England, or on the Protestant spirit and character of our institutions, it was but taking a very poor view of that spirit, and forming a mean estimate of that Church, if they supposed the bill could possibly endanger the one or lessen or diminish the other.

Lord PALMERSTON remarked that the question at issue was not one between Protestantism and Catholicity, it was a question between sound sense and most respectable and honourable prejudice; a prejudice, however, which ought not to override justice.

Mr. NEWDEGATE vindicated his opposition to the bill against the insinuation that he was actuated by an ignorant prejudice or by any other feeling than a sincere conviction.

The House divided, and the second reading was carried by 152 to 122.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

The second reading of the Local Government Act, 1858, Amendment Bill was moved by Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY, who stated its object to be to prevent certain parishes from availing themselves of the provisions of the Local Government Act merely for the purpose of escaping the operation of the Highway Act.

The bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE AMNESTY TO THE POLES.

Mr. DENMAN inquired if Government had received any information as to whether the amnesty offered by the Emperor of Russia to persons engaged in the Polish insurrection was intended to suspend the execution of political prisoners taken since the commencement of those proceedings of the Russian authorities which led to the insurrection.

Lord PALMERSTON replied that more than one version had appeared of the amnesty, and that different interpretations had been put upon it, some giving it the comprehensive sense attached to it by the hon. gentleman, and others a more limited and restricted meaning. All he could say was that he hoped the larger interpretation was the just one. It was impossible not to feel that the Russian Government and their troops in Poland had committed so many acts of ferocious violence that there was a great arrears of mercy and indulgence due from that Government to set them right with the public opinion of Europe.

AMALGAMATION OF THE CITY AND METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Sir G. GREY then moved for leave to bring in a bill for the amalgamation of the City of London police with the metropolitan police. In doing so the right hon. Baronet wished the House to understand that the measure was by no means to be regarded as one of a penal character, consequent upon the events of the 7th of last month, although, undoubtedly, those events showed a great want of order and management, and an inadequate appreciation on the part of the authorities of the City of the nature of the emergency that was likely to arise. But a Royal Commission and Committees of this House had reported in favour of the scheme contemplated by the bill, and successive Governments had given it their approval. It was rendered necessary, in fact, by the altered circumstances of the metropolis, which, in point of population and area, had vastly outgrown the limits of the City. In this respect, therefore, the Corporation of London differed from every other in the kingdom. Its position was entirely exceptional, inasmuch as it had a separate jurisdiction independent of the surrounding district; so that no other corporation need be under any apprehension that the measure could possibly be applied to them.

Mr. CRAWFORD said he would not oppose the introduction of the bill, coming, as it did, from the Government; but he gave notice that, on the motion for its second reading, he should propose as an amendment that it be read a second time that day six months.

After some discussion, the bill was introduced and read a first time.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Innkeepers Liability Bill was, after some discussion, read a second time; as were also the Elections during the Recess Bill and the Borough Residence Uniform Measurement Bill. With regard to the latter measure a division took place, the second reading being carried by 171 votes to 135. The Marriages, &c. (Ireland), Bill passed through Committee.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Alkali Works Regulation Bill was considered in Committee, and several clauses, after discussion, were agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in answer to Sir J. Fergusson, said there was no intention to make any change in the machinery by which the income tax was collected.

THE SEIZURE OF THE PETERHOFF.

Mr. ROEBUCK asked whether the Government were prepared to take any, and, if so, what, steps in reference to the capture of the Peterhoff by Admiral Wilkes. Mr. Roebuck severely condemned the conduct of the American Government, and said that he (Mr. Roebuck) knew the consequence of what he was doing. It might lead to war; and, speaking as an Englishman, he was ready for war. The commerce of England must no longer be subject to disturbance by an upstart race.

Lord PALMERSTON—The House will have seen and will understand that the matter to which the question relates is of the greatest possible consideration. All he could say was, that the subject was receiving due consideration on the part of Her Majesty's Government, but he was not prepared to state at present what course the Government would take.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply.

Mr. BENTINCK called the attention of her Majesty's Government to a statement in the City article of the Times newspaper of the 17th inst. referring to the seizure of British vessels by the cruisers of the Northern States of America, and moved for certain papers on the subject.

Mr. LAYARD expressed the greatest surprise at the conduct of certain hon. members on the opposite side of the house, particularly after the explanation of the noble Lord at the head of the Government. The hon. gentleman then proceeded to read the correspondence which had taken place between Earl Russell and the Postmaster-General, in which they decided that, as a ship was liable to seizure by the Americans for any letter to the Confederate States that might be in the letter-bags, those vessels that were under contract should not be compelled to carry those letter-bags. He then defended the Government generally in the course they had taken in their negotiations with the American Government.

Mr. WHITESIDE said, however surprised the hon. Under-Secretary might be at the conduct of members on the opposite side of the house, he might rest assured that whenever the honour or the interest of the country was concerned the members of that House would not be deterred by any feeling of surprise on the part of the hon. gentleman, or of the Government generally, from asking those questions which they deemed necessary in order to gain information which would guide them in their councils.

Sir H. CAIRNS wished to know whether the Government had really assented to the principle that the Americans might seize any of our vessels trading with neutral ports, drag them into a prize court in the United States, and

compel them to undergo a lengthened litigation before justice could be done to their owners.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said that as far back as November last Earl Russell protested against the seizure of our vessels by American cruisers, unless after careful search and reasonable grounds to justify the capture being found on board. Mr. Seward had never attempted to justify the indiscriminate seizure of our merchant vessels, and had sent out instructions to the American officers to be very careful not to seize upon any vessels but those that were carrying contraband of war.

Lord R. CECIL said that the Federal ships had unjustifiably seized some of our ships; and, while our Government was considering what it should do, Mr. Adams was master of the field, and our commerce was smarting under the consequences. Already the insurance rates were raised on our shipping in consequence of the state of our relations with America, and he thought that the protestations of Mr. Seward were not of much value, when it was notorious that Admiral Wilkes was making the most piratical attacks upon our vessels.

Mr. B. OSBORNE hoped that the House would repose their utmost confidence in the judgment and discretion of the noble Lord at the head of the Government, and deprecated a continuance of a discussion calculated to precipitate this country into war.

The subject then dropped, and the motion was withdrawn.

THE LATE PRINCE CONSORT'S MEMORIAL.

The House having gone into Committee of Supply, Lord PALMERSTON, pursuant to motion, moved that a sum of £50,000 be granted to her Majesty in aid of the fund towards the erection of a memorial in Hyde Park to commemorate the late lamented Prince Albert. The motion was agreed to.

THE ROYAL MARRIAGE NUMBERS

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SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1863.

INEFFICIENCY.

The main argument put forth as the ground of Sir George Grey's bill for the abolition of the City police force is that of its inefficiency. It therefore follows, according to Sir George's reasoning, that inefficient performance of the duties of a public officer is to be considered a sufficient reason for the transfer of such duties to other and more competent hands. The conclusion is one which few will be disposed to question; but, in the present case, its application tends rather to damage than to support the interests of the party on whose behalf it is brought forward. In fact, so far as ordinary duty is concerned, events prove the inefficiency of the metropolitan rather than of the civic police force.

The state of the city of London is somewhat peculiar in this respect, that, while it is the storehouse of enormous wealth, its treasures are nightly abandoned by their proprietors. There would be scarcely any part of the world offering such temptations to the robber and burglar if the watch kept by the police were as uncertain as that with which the dwellers in other districts of the metropolis are forced to content themselves. As it is, even while burglaries happen to be most prevalent in the suburbs, they are rare in the City. The City enjoyed almost an immunity during the garotte mania. There is no great haunt and abiding-place of thieves within the Lord Mayor's jurisdiction—no such quarters as are to be found elsewhere whence thieves issue in troops under the very noses and truncheons of the metropolitan police. One might seek in vain after nightfall in the City for such a scene as that to be met with in the Haymarket. There has scarcely been a murder in the City for years, and when it has occurred it has usually been the act of some semi-maniac or low-bred ruffian, who has been arrested almost immediately, and at once brought to justice. In the out-of-the-metropolis difficulty of finding a policeman attending to his duty has passed into a popular jest. In the City the police not only watch and guard the streets, but direct the traffic continually, and the most frequent complaint against them is the vigilance with which they oppose any interference with the public right of thoroughfare, even to the temporary standing of cabs outside the doors of the legal or mercantile establishments. The City police are renowned for their general civility and attentiveness, because, as a contemporary has well pointed out, they cannot tell whether any chance passenger may not be connected with the authorities under whose government they act.

It is an unfortunate time, indeed, to attempt to vaunt the pretended superior efficiency of the metropolitan police force when every wall and every newspaper proclaim their incompetency to discover the perpetrator of a terrible crime committed in broad daylight in one of those quarters which are, happily, without parallel in the City. We are told the City police is expensive. Well, if it is, the citizens themselves pay for it out of their own pockets. If they choose to pay every one of their policemen double his value, what is that to others? But if the value of a policeman in the City be more than he is worth elsewhere, the transfer of his charge to the general account will simply be throwing upon the public at large the extra assessment required for the proper guarding of the City. But the City police are, as we are told, inefficient. The only charge of inefficiency happens to be founded upon certain accidents which can plausibly be traced to the jealousy with which a loyal civic demonstration was restricted by the Home Office.

Let us begin, then, with the Home Office if inefficiency is to be seized upon as a ground for radical change. Let us inquire scrupulously into the conduct of Sir George Grey

himself. Let us remember the so-called garotte panic, the murderous attack on the members of Parliament in one of the best-lighted, most open thoroughfares of the West-end. But it was only a panic. If so, why was it suffered to continue? Why, for long months, during which every one who could afford to purchase and dared to use a weapon carried one nightly, ready to his grasp in case of need, was not the "panic" allayed by some act on the part of the Home Office, tending to reassure the public mind? Was not the "panic" originated by the very acts of the Home Secretary in granting indiscriminately tickets of leave to the vilest and most desperate of ruffians? Have not two of these men been hanged for two several murders, accompanied by unspeakable atrocity, committed upon English maidens? What is the secret of the famous visit of the two metropolitan detectives to Warsaw? Who believes that they went thither, as alleged, to instruct the Russian police in the working of the English system, a statement as feasible as would be the announcement of the excursion of two British undergraduates to teach the Russians how to establish a college?

It appears to us that the less said about inefficiency the better, on the part of Sir George Grey at least; otherwise the public, in turn, may be tempted to inquire into the efficiency of the present administration of the Home Office. The result of such an inquiry might, perhaps, be more satisfactory to the public than the present unlucky motion for the virtual abolition of the privileges of the City in the government of its own constabulary.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY and the PRINCESS OF WALES paid a visit to the Windsor Infirmary on Tuesday, went over the wards, inquired into the circumstances of several of the cases, and spoke in the kindest manner to a number of the patients.

THE PRINCE and PRINCESS OF WALES returned to Windsor from their seat, Sandringham Hall, Norfolk, on Saturday.

THE DIFFICULTIES which have hitherto opposed the acceptance of the Greek crown by Prince William of Denmark have been overcome, and the throne has been accepted by Prince Christian on behalf of his son.

THE EX-QUEEN OF NAPLES has rejoined her husband in Rome.

LORD MESSERENE fell down an embankment on his estate at Antrim Castle on Saturday, and was so severely injured that no hopes are entertained of his recovery.

BAVARIA has lodged a special protest against the occupation of the Greek throne by any King not belonging to the Bavarian dynasty.

ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON the ancient ceremony of "churching the Judges" took place in St. Paul's Cathedral.

A BEAUTIFUL SILK QUILT has been made for the Princess of Wales by the girls attending the Church of England sewing-classes in the Townhall, Blackburn.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON, it is rumoured in Paris, has determined to recall M. Mercier from Washington, "in consequence of the unfriendly and offensive acts of the Federal Government."

THE KING OF PRUSSIA, it is reported, continues in very bad health, and his nervous system is more and more shattered.

THE 10TH OF JUNE has now been fixed for the uncovering, by the Prince of Wales, of the Memorial of the Exhibition of 1851, which has been erected in the Royal Horticultural Society's Garden at Kensington.

ON THE DAY OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE RUSSIAN EASTER FESTIVITIES eight political prisoners were hanged and four others shot in the Citadel of Warsaw. Their names are not known.

OUT OF 36,590 COMMON BREWERS in the United Kingdom, 32,672 pay license on less than 1000 barrels of beer each. There are only two who pay upon upwards of 400,000 barrels each.

THE FREE CITY OF LUBECK has abolished the passport nuisance within its territory. After the present month of April strangers need no longer show passports or any kind of document proving who they are, and the Lubeck police will no longer give visas.

THE DARIEN, the pioneer steamer of the newly-formed Liverpool, West Indian, and Central American Steam Navigation Company, sailed on Tuesday evening with a good cargo, and some passengers, for ports in the West Indies and the Spanish Main.

MR. EUGENE RIMMEL, of 96, Strand, has had the honour of being appointed perfumer to her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales.

THE FEDERAL CRUISERS have seized another British steamer, the Dolphin, immediately on leaving the Dutch settlement of St. Thomas, on a voyage from Liverpool to the British port of Nassau, New Providence.

THE GAOLER of the prison of St. Michele at Rome has disappeared, with the minutes of all the political prosecutions in his possession.

THE MANSION HOUSE RELIEF COMMITTEE have resolved to devote £5000 of the funds at their disposal to promote emigration from the distressed manufacturing districts.

CHAR-FISHING has commenced on Windermere, and the fish are reported to be abundant, of superior quality, and easily taken.

REBELLION, it is said, still lurks in several districts of Oude, and several persons have been arrested for circulating letters inciting the Mohammedans to rise against the British Government.

THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY of the settlement of the colony of New South Wales was celebrated there on the 26th of January last.

THIRTEEN new and powerful Federal ironclads are expected to be ready for sea from different shipyards before this month closes, which, says "Manhattan," will be used eventually to peg away at England.

ORDERS have been transmitted from St. Petersburg to Cronstadt to fit out a squadron to cruise in the Gulf of Finland and the Baltic, for the purpose of preventing any landing of the Poles.

IN SOME PARTS OF AUSTRALIA the dingo, or wild dog, is extinct, and wallabies, paddi melons, and other bush animals, are likely to be troublesome to the colonists.

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC WAS "APRIL FOOLED" by a report that the Confederates were making a night attack. The troops had been got under arms before the hoax was discovered.

THE ACCOUNTS RECEIVED OF THE GROWING CROPS from the agricultural districts of France continue to be excellent. The weather is favourable, and appearances give hopes of an abundant harvest.

THE LATEST SCIENTIFIC *on dit* is that James Watt will be proved to be the discoverer of photography. A letter in his writing is said to be the documentary evidence.

THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF MILITIA MEN of all ranks in Lower Canada is 190,000, and in Upper Canada 280,000.

THE TYNEMOUTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has resolved to memorialise the Government, urging an immediate increase of our fleets on the West India and North America stations for the protection of merchant vessels.

NEGOTIATIONS have been reopened between the Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia with reference to the proposed conference on the subject of an intercolonial tariff.

THE PRUSSIAN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES have adopted the commercial treaty with Belgium, only two members voting against it.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF AMERICA have, it is said, stopped a French armory which was about to sail, laden with stores, &c., for the French army in Mexico.

THE LONDON GENERAL OMNIBUS COMPANY paid last year £127,390 for oats, and about £54,000 for duty, which is nearly half the expense of all their oats, in duty! This duty was also just about half the wages to all the drivers and conductors.

THE £6,000,000 TURKISH LOAN has already, it is stated, been more than subscribed in Paris, and, before the lists are closed, it is thought the total will at least represent four or five times the amount required.

AN ALARMING FIRE broke out early on Saturday morning in Messrs. Capel's coopers, Seething-lane, Tower-street. It was not subdued until it had destroyed a great deal of property.

THE GOVERNOR OF DEMERARA has issued orders that if the Alabama calls there for supplies they are not to be furnished. According to late advices Admiral Wilkes was at Havannah, and it was believed that the Alabama was lost.

IN THE FOURTEEN YEARS 1848-61 39,297 persons (about eight a day) were burnt alive in England or were scalded to death: 1344 were infants under one year of age; 4500 were children of one and under two years of age; 9777 were between two and four years of age—and in these two years the child, not having learnt to tread the fire, incurs the greatest danger.

SIGNOR FARINI, the late Italian Prime Minister, once an able and energetic man, but now wholly deprived of his reasoning faculties, is represented to be on the point of death. The Italian Parliament has voted a liberal provision for Signor Farini, with reversion of a portion to his wife and mother.

A GENTLEMAN OF LEIPZIG has been commissioned by the Acclimatization Society of Melbourne, Australia, to send out to Victoria as many German sparrows as he can procure.

THE SULTAN OF TURKEY left Alexandria on Friday week, on his return to Constantinople. Small Pacha remained on board the Imperial yacht till the last moment, and the parting was most cordial. The Pacha immediately returned to Cairo. The Sultan's visit, it is said, will cost the Egyptian Government upwards of £1,000,000 sterling.

GERMAN PAPERS announce the discovery at Vienna of an unknown oratorio, by Schubert, on the subject of Lazarus. This is described by some writers as a composition of high interest and originality.

AT HULL, the other day, a tradesman gave a youth change for a £5 note; some time afterwards, on examining it, he found that it was issued by the "Lovers' Banking Company." The police arrested the youth, and he was sentenced to seven months' imprisonment.

THE FEDERAL CONGRESS COMMITTEE ON THE WAR have recommended the President, if England builds any more vessels for the rebels, to recall Mr. Adams and to send Lord Lyons his passport.

A STUDENT of the University of Göttingen shot himself dead through the mouth—on the table by the body lay a sealed envelope, with the following address:—"To all those who wished to know why I have shot myself." On opening the letter there were found the words, "From ennui."

SOME UNKNOWN PRISON HAVING ROBBERED A PARISIAN, took advantage of a milk-tin left at the victim's door to make amends. The cook took in the tin and was surprised to find it much heavier than usual. On pouring out the milk she saw a roll of paper left in the can, which, on examination, was found to contain a considerable sum in gold coins.

PATRICK DOLAN and HIS WIFE quarrelled at Birmingham, a few days ago, about a penny. Mrs. Dolan threw a large shell at her husband, which struck him on the forehead, and has caused his death.

AT TWERTON, in Somersetshire, the clerk of the board of guardians was returning thanks at a public dinner for the toast of his health when he dropped down and died immediately.

ON THE 11TH A TRIDUUM was performed in the Greek chapel at Malta, by order of the Greek Government, on the occasion of the election of Prince George of Denmark as King of Greece. The Greek Patriarch invoked the blessings of the Almighty on the three protecting Powers, and the Consul made a speech on the success of the revolution. The proceedings terminated with cheers for the new King and for the Greek nation.

DEATH OF FIELD MARSHAL LORD SEATON.

ONE of the old heroes of the Peninsula and of Waterloo summoned away to their last rest, and, comparatively speaking, but few of the more distinguished companions in arms of the great Duke now survive, except the veteran Field Marshal Lord Combermere, who seems to enjoy a lease of perpetual youth. Beresford, Lyndoch, Londonderry, Anglessea, Raglan, and Strathall all are gone; and now we have to record the demise of Field Marshal Lord Seaton, better known to contemporary readers and to history by his former name of Sir John Colborne—a name which he has covered with glory in more than one quarter of the world.

The Right Hon. John Colborne, G.C.B., G.C.H., born in 1777, was the son of a Hampshire gentleman (Mr. Samuel Colborne, of Lyndhurst), who, having made some unfortunate speculations, died, leaving a widow and two children in very narrow circumstances. Young John Colborne went for a time to Christ's Hospital, but on his mother marrying the Rev. Dr. Burgess, a dignitary of Winchester, he was removed to the foundation of Winchester College, where he received his education. He entered the Army in 1794, became a Lieutenant in the following year, and served in Holland in the campaign of 1799. Attaining the rank of Captain early in those days of rapid promotion, he went to Egypt in 1801, and in 1805 was, with the British and Russian troops, employed on the Neapolitan frontier. In the campaign of 1806 he served in Sicily and Calabria, and was present in the battle of Maida. During this last and the following year he held the post of Military Secretary to General Fox, Commander of the forces in Sicily and the Mediterranean; after which, rising to the grade of Major, he acted in a similar capacity under Sir John Moore in Sicily, Sweden, Portugal, and Spain, ending his service only with the battle of Corunna. Sir John Moore was Colonel of a very celebrated regiment—the 52nd Light Infantry, and it was in his conduct of that force that Colborne won his chief military renown. He joined Wellington's army at Jaraicejo in 1809, and was sent to La Mancha to report on the operations of the Spanish armies. He was at the battle of Oquana, and in the campaigns of 1810 and 1811 he commanded a brigade in Sir Rowland Hill's division, and was detached in command of it to observe the movements of General Reynier on the frontier of Portugal. So also he commanded a brigade at Busaco and at Badajoz, at Albuera and at Ciudad Rodrigo, where he was severely wounded. He commanded the second brigade of the Light Division at the battles of the Nivelle and the Nive, and during the campaign of the Basque Pyrenees. At Orthes, and at Toulouse he led the 52nd. His chief military feat, however, was performed at Waterloo, where he again commanded the 52nd, as part of Adams's brigade. Of his own accord he led the forward movement which determined the fortunes of the day. When the column of the Imperial Guard was gaining the summit of the British position, and was forcing backward one of the companies of the 95th, Colborne, seeing his left endangered, started the 52nd on its advance. The Duke saw the movement, and instantly sent to desire Colborne to continue it.

After Waterloo a soldier seemed to have, as a soldier, no more chances in the world; and there was nothing left for Sir John Colborne (now a K.C.B.) than the uncertain glories of a semi-civil life. Soon after the peace he was appointed Governor of Guernsey, where he was the means of reviving Elizabeth College, which had fallen into great decay. He was afterwards appointed to the command of the forces in Canada, which he held from 1830 to 1838. On one occasion, being dissatisfied with the conduct of the civil powers in that colony, he resigned his command, and his luggage was actually on board the transport, on which he was to have embarked in three days' time, when an autograph letter from the King (William IV.) arrived, requesting him to remain. He was honoured with the Grand Cross of the Bath, and was named Governor-General as well as Commander-in-Chief. Having suppressed the Canadian rebellion, he returned to England and was raised to the peerage; but he took no part in politics, save once, when he spoke in the debate on the union of the Canadas. Though he took no part in the debates of the House of Lords, he was still to have another field for the exercise of whatever legislative gifts he might possess. He acted as Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands from 1843 to 1849, and there he had, during the revolutionary mania of 1848, to deal with the demands of a people continually disaffected. He yielded, perhaps, too much to their demands, and gave them a Constitution which has been the source of endless misery to succeeding Lord High Commissioners, and which at last has inspired the British Cabinet with a desire to cut the knot at the earliest possible moment—to cut the knot by parting with the islands as soon as may be.

Since then Lord Seaton has commanded the troops in Ireland; in 1854 he was appointed Colonel of the 2nd Life Guards; and in 1860 was promoted to the rank of Field Marshal. He died at Torquay, in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

OBITUARY.

HON. MRS. CAVENDISH.—The Hon. Mrs. Louisa Cavendish, widow of Mr. William Cavendish, and mother of the Duke of Devonshire, died at Chiselmhurst on Friday week, in her eighty-fourth year. The deceased lady was the daughter of the first Baron Lisborne, and was born in 1779.

MISS KATE SAXON.—Mrs. T. C. Forster, who was well known in the theatrical profession as Miss Kate Saxon, died on Monday last, at the early age of thirty-six, after a short though painful illness. Miss Saxon was born of Quaker parents, and was educated at the school of that sect at Croydon. In 1849 herself and husband became members of the Whittington Club, and joined the election class of that institution, in which she imbibed a taste for dramatic representations that became a ruling passion until the hour of her death.

MR. APSLEY FELLATT.—Mr. Apsley Fellatt died at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. Field, at Baltham-hill, near Croydon, at a late hour on Friday night week. The deceased was for several years M.P. for Southwark as the colleague of the late Admiral Sir Charles Napier. He was defeated by Mr. Locke, Q.C., the present member. During the period that Mr. Apsley represented the borough he was a staunch supporter of the Liberal Party. He was in his seventy-second year.



THE FRENCH IN MEXICO.—ENCAMPMENT OF CAVALRY IN THE FOREST OF CHIQUIHUTE.

THE FRENCH IN MEXICO.

THE condition of the French troops in Mexico is still that of an army which has to contend not only with a wily and cautious foe, but with a climate to which it is difficult to become thoroughly accustomed. The positions frequently occupied by the various regiments are amongst the most unhealthy in the whole country, and the men are exposed to hardships which require all the fortitude even of a French soldier to overcome. The latest reports, however, are more favourable, and the health of the army seems greatly to improve.

A letter from an officer serving in Mexico says that up to the 2nd of March they were at Los Reyes, in the midst of a fine country, the population of which he represents as highly favourable, and allowing them to want for nothing which the country can afford. Los Reyes is situate in advance of Quechelac, on the left of Acutzingo, and thirty-eight miles from Puebla. As the village contains but few houses, the officers and soldiers slept in their tents to avoid disturbing the inhabitants. The health of the army is described as excellent. They had with them a battalion of marine fusileers commanded by Captain Bruat, of the Imperial navy,

and also a battery of marine howitzers. Both these corps were well organised, and had been found very useful during the campaign. Orders had been sent from head-quarters to march on the 8th to Tepeaca, where the troops were to halt till further orders. The men were in excellent spirits, and certain of success in the approaching attack on Puebla, on which the General expected to open fire on the 15th. Puebla was defended by 200 guns, with a force said to amount to 20,000 men. It was the general belief in camp that the fall of Puebla would be quickly followed by the surrender of the city of Mexico. Our Engraving represents the encampment of a cavalry force in

E N G L A N D A N D A U S T R A L I A.



DAUGHTERS HERE.

the depth of that Mexican forest so long undisturbed, and certainly never before giving shelter to such a band. The description of this portion of the country given by Captain Mayne Reid, in one of his most popular stories, may, apart from its romantic colouring, be taken as that of an eye-witness. He says:—"It is a tropical forest. The outlines of the leaves, their breadth, their glowing colours, all reveal this. The eye roams with delight over a frondage that par-

takes equally of the gold and the green. It is led upward by the rounded trunks of the palm, that like columns appear to support the leafy canopy above. It penetrates the network of vines, or follows the diagonal direction of gigantic lianas, that creep like monster serpents from tree to tree. It gazes with pleased wonder upon the huge bamboo briars and tree ferns. Wherever it turns flowers open their corollas to meet its delighted glance—tropical tree-flowers, blossoms of the scarlet

vine, and trumpet-shaped tubes of the bignonia. I behold the tall stems of the palma real rising one hundred feet without leaf or branch, and supporting a parachute of feathery fronds that wave to the slightest impulse of the breeze. Beside it I see its constant companion, the Indian cane—a small palm-tree, whose slender trunk and small stature contrast oddly with the colossal proportions of its lordly protector.

"There is no wind, scarcely a breath stirring, yet here and there the



SONS THERE.—(DRAWN BY MISS CLAXTON.)

leaves are in motion. The wings of bright birds flash before the eye, passing from tree to tree. The carpenter bird—the great woodpecker—bangs against the decayed trunk of the magnolia, beating the hollow bark, and now and then sounding his clarion note, which may be heard to the distance of a mile. Out of the underwood springs the crested carraway; or, basking in the sun-lit glades, with outspread wings gleaming with metallic lustre, may be seen the beautiful turkey of Honduras.

"The graceful roe bounds forward, startled by the tread of the advancing horse. The caiman crawls lazily along the bank, or hides his hideous body under the water of a sluggish stream; the not less hideous form of the iguana is seen crawling up a tree trunk, or lying along the slope of a liana; the green lizard scuttles along the path; the basilisk looks with glistening eyes from the dark interstices of some corrugated tree. Serpents form present themselves. Now and then the huge boa and the macaurel twining the trees; the real tiger snake; the coecabel, coiled like a cable; and the coral snake, with his red and ringed body stretched at full length along the ground.

"Besides these there are red monkeys, tiny cutistis, and ferocious zambos; spotted jaguars, onces, panthers, lynxes, and occasionally Mexican lions, which prowl at night, when the place of some of the birds and monkeys is taken by brilliant fireflies, night hawks, whip-poor-wills, vampires, tree-toads, bell-frogs, and skunks." This, with the addition of more adjectives than are here inserted, is the impression which the captain gives his readers of a Mexican forest; and amidst what a contemporary has aptly called this "uproar of life," the French soldiers have lately pitched their tents.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

In your last week's Paper I said that rumour pointed to Earl De Grey and Ripon as the successor to Sir George Cornewall Lewis. This rumour proved to be true. The noble Earl is now Secretary for War, and the Marquis of Hartington Under-Secretary and manager of the business of the War Department in the House of Commons. As under-secretaries are not appointed by the Crown, the Marquis will not have to go to his constituents. These appointments cannot be very satisfactory to the House of Commons; nor ought they to be. There are now eight members of the Cabinet—including three chief Secretaries of State and the First Lord of the Admiralty—in the House of Lords, against six in the Commons. Fortunately, the Army Estimates were all passed before Sir George Lewis died; the young Marquis will therefore have very little Parliamentary work this year. But, with a year to train and cram, it is very questionable whether he will prove the efficient representative of so important a department of State that the House has a right to demand. "But what was Lord Palmerston to do?" has been asked. "He has no man in the House of Commons fit to take the secretaryship of the War Office; he was therefore obliged to go to the Lords." If, however, this be really so, if there is not an unemployed man in the ranks of the Liberal party fit to perform the duties of a Secretary of State, the Liberal party is indeed in a bad case, and its prospects are not cheering. I rather think, however, the truth is this—there is no man palatable to the House Guards. Mr. Stansfeld, the member for Halifax, has accepted the junior lordship of the Admiralty, vacated by the Marquis of Hartington. It was offered to him in the handsomest way by Lord Palmerston, without clog or stipulation, and, after consultation with his political friends, who all advised him to accept, Mr. Stansfeld closed with the offer. It is not expected that he will have any difficulty with his constituents.

The Conservative chief in the House of Commons is now beginning to reap the fruits of his alliance with the Irish Roman Catholics. On Monday night he found himself in the lobby with all the Irish Roman Catholics, but deserted by nine-tenths of his own political friends; and yet it is difficult to see how, having gone so far to propitiate the Irish, he could refuse to support the Ministers' Bill. Indeed, he was in a perplexing dilemma. If he deserted the Irish, he would lose them; if he supported the bill, he would incur the anger of his Protestant supporters. It was a pity that he could not manage to have a cold that night or a fit of the gout. However, he has taken his course; and now, what next, and next? The ultra-Protestant party in the House do not scruple to assert that Disraeli has indefinitely postponed his advent to office. I have more than once pointed out in these columns that this coquetting with the Irish Catholics would very likely be his ruin. The Whigs once formed an Irish alliance, and we all know what came of it. The only way to treat the Irish Catholics is to let them go their way; resolutely opposing them at all points does not answer. Forming alliances with them is a still more dangerous policy. "You have gained Birkenhead and Cambridge by help of your Irish allies, but you have endangered a score of Conservative seats," a county member is reported to have said to Lord Derby. Your readers ought by all means to peruse Mr. Disraeli's speech and Mr. Newdegate's reply. Let them note the following extract from the latter:—"The right hon. gentleman the member for Buckinghamshire seemed incapable of regarding the Church as anything but a wealthy corporation, instead of the sanctuary and exponent of that Protestant and Christian truth to which the people of this country are deeply attached." Considering that the right hon. gentleman has lately become a zealous defender of the Church, this sentence is a very hard blow. Do not imagine that I find fault with Disraeli's speech. It was, in my opinion, a wise speech. All I wish to do is to show the effect of the policy indicated therein upon the party which Disraeli leads. The writer of the "Inner Life" portrayed last week the disarranged condition of the Conservative party. This speech of Disraeli and the division have added immensely to the confusion; only those who mix with the Conservative gentlemen and hear them talk can imagine how angry they are.

It is impossible to say at present whether the City or the Government will win in the battle about the City police. If the Corporation had good leaders in the House I think it might beat the Government; but when you have a Lord Mayor who never gets up without exciting a laugh, and an Alderman who talks about a "hare" apparent, and a "binstitution," and "umility," it is impossible to foretell what may be the result. At present it would seem as if the City might possibly win. It is understood that the Conservative whips will bring up all their forces on the second reading to support the Lord Mayor; but we must see what the Conservative country gentlemen will do. The Liberal party will be divided; but, unless the bulk of the Conservatives support the City, it is a gone case.

I extract the following from a Scotch paper:—

Lately a treasurership of a County Court became vacant; there were two candidates, both having especial claims, and each supported by powerful influence. A serious quarrel arose between these two claimants and their backers; at last it was determined to refer the dispute to Lord Palmerston. "Oh," said the jauntier Premier when he heard the case, "a County Court treasurership vacant, is there? Why, that is the very thing I want for a friend of mine. The best way, therefore, to settle the dispute, as both of you seem to have claims equally good, is for me to take the office and give it to my friend;" and this he did; he presented this nice little post of £700 a year to the Hon. Mr. Ashley, son of Lord Shaftesbury, and grandson of Lady Palmerston. As Lord Dundreary says—"Thath good, isn't it?" Nothing better than this happened since the lawyer took the oyster and gave each of his clients a shell.

If ever there was a case in which the popular sympathies might be supposed to be on the side of justice, we have it in the St. Giles's murder. The sex of the victim, her defencelessness, and the atrocious circumstances under which it was committed, combine to render it one of the most repulsive and horrible in the dreary annals of crime. Judge, then, of my surprise at finding the description of the supposed murderer carefully obliterated from no less than three of the placards put forth by the police. The reward offered, the black heading "Murder," and other details were left untouched; but the gist of the bill, which is, of course, the description of the man, was smeared out in two instances, and torn off in the third. I speak so far from personal observation; but, on comparing notes with friends, I find the same course has been pursued in various parts of the metropolis, and more extensively than would be readily believed. Is not this a little mysterious? You see there is no small risk in thus thwarting and impeding Messieurs the police. They are, rightly or wrongly, pursuing a certain scent, and to do aught

towards destroying the trail is to commit a misdemeanour severely punishable by law. I say nothing of the awkwardness of having to disprove all personal interest in the matter, and of convincing the authorities of the innocence of the defacer; but it is sufficiently curious that so much should be risked by a person or persons unknown. Is it prompted by mere stupid, meaningless mischief, or is it a practical protest against the theory started by the police? Thinkers and talkers are not wanting who declare the course of action adopted to be utterly faulty, and that its feebleness is proved by the number of men who have been arrested on suspicion. It certainly seems a little hard that if you happen to be about twenty-seven years of age, between five feet seven and five feet eight in height, and to have weak eyes, that you are open to suspicion of the crime of murder. The "active and intelligent officers" have already apprehended a soldier, a Woolwich artisan, a Scotch commercial traveller, and a German baker; and in each case the accused has been at once proved to be innocent of the charge. Perhaps all the men of the age and height quoted, and whose eyes have the misfortune to be weak, have entered into a bond of self-defence, and have pledged themselves each to do his utmost towards obliterating a description which imperils their safety. I cannot for a moment believe that sympathy is felt for the murderer, and am driven to the conclusion that this mysterious garbling of a handbill is a mere expression of contempt—a snapping of the fingers—at the boasted sagacity of the detective force.

Have you seen the prospectus of a new journal, *The Mirror*? It is tolerably confident in tone. I was not a little startled to read therein that, "for educated readers there is, properly speaking, no such thing as a weekly newspaper." Pretty well this! I am puzzled, moreover, to see that the *Mirror* contributors are to be, after all, "the most able news-writers of the day," for, though their mode of dealing with subjects is to be one "hitherto unattempted," I presume that their ability in news-writing can only have been acquired in one or other of the papers already existing. If, then, the writers are those to whom we are accustomed, what is to be the distinctive feature, making the *Mirror* fit for educated readers? This is a question which must be answered by the journal itself, the first number of which is announced for to-day.

Last week occurred the death of Mr. James Rogers, perhaps the funniest actor left us since the loss of Mr. Wright. Though less of an artist, and lacking the dry sententiousness of Mr. Compton and the quaint drollery of Mr. Buckstone, the deceased gentleman possessed a certain quality of humour which was unequalled in its mirth-creating powers. He had peculiar talent for personating female characters, and while exhibiting every odd and ridiculous phase, never sullied his performance by the slightest coarseness. Of late years he suffered from a complication of disorders, and at times his physical pains were distressing to witness. But he died in harness, acting at the St. James's Theatre on the night preceding his death. He was a general favourite as well in private as in public, and the meagre, doleful face, and the cracked, querulous voice of "Jeany Rogers," will be thought of with respect when many greater men are forgotten.

The public will regret to learn that Sir Edwin Landseer has been unable to finish his large picture of "The Finding of the Franklin Relics" in time for the forthcoming exhibition of the Academy.

The report that the Rev. J. M. Bellew was about to deliver a lecture on Mr. Telbin's "Panorama of the Holy Land," to be exhibited during the afternoon at the Haymarket Theatre, is utterly without foundation.

Lady Dufferin, I hear, is about to try her fortune at dramatic authorship. Her play has been written for Mr. and Mrs. Wigan, and it is called "Finesse." Ladies have not hitherto been very successful in writing for the stage; witness Mrs. Gore and her *£500 prize comedy*, "Quid pro Quo," which never drew a sixpence. *Adieu omen*.

The photographic "portrait stamps" originated by Mr. Basano, of Regent-street, have become a great success. Already I have heard of several young ladies who have commenced portrait-stamp collections. It was a graceful idea, and merited the popularity which it has achieved.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Last week was the time set apart for receiving works of art for the society's exhibition of sculpture, which is to be open on the 5th of May next. Some of the most eminent members of the profession have liberally contributed to the exhibition. Among a multitude of other beautiful works we observe Week's "Mother's Kiss," his "Young Naturalist," and the statue of the Marquis of Wellesley; Foley's much-admired large model of Goldsmith, his "Boy at the Stream," and some others; Marshall's "Expulsion of Adam and Eve," and his "Young Briton"; Durham's "Paul and Virginia," and a colossal statue. Stephens has contributed his characteristic statue of Sir Dyke Acland, and some other excellent works. Sherwood Westmacott has, in addition to his lovely statue of the Peri, one or two beautiful little figures; Davis, his statue of Rebecca; Papworth, his "Maidenhood"; Birch, his "Love Test"; F. M. Miller, his "Evangeline," and a number of other highly-wrought statuettes; Fontana, his "Cupid Captive," &c.; and Woodington, several busts. Many other works have also been sent by minor celebrities.

ENGLISH GOODS AND FRENCH PATTERNS.—A trial has occurred before the Paris Correctional Court of some importance to Manchester houses consigning goods to France. The firm of Selby and Franklyn, having a branch in Paris, sold to two warehouse establishments there Manchester prints, the pattern patent in which was claimed by a Rouen printer, M. Hazard. He sued all concerned in the transaction, but the French dealers were acquitted, while Selby and Co. were ordered to pay damages 10,000*fr.* to Hazard, and a Government fine of 2000*fr.* On appeal the damages were reduced. There is no possibility of ascertaining fairly what designs are thus protected, the system of French registration affording no clue, the patterns deposited being under seal and inaccessible. It was stated in the course of the trial that French designers were in the habit of selling their patterns in England after having disposed of them in France; and that Selby and Franklyn had bought the patterns in question in this way, and did not know that they were patented in France.

PRESENT FROM ROME TO THE PRINCESS OF WALES.—A picture executed by the eminent Roman jeweller, Signor Castellani, for the Princess of Wales, by commission of a body of British noblemen and gentlemen residing in Rome this winter, consists of an elegant wreath of seventy laurel leaves, in wrought gold, for the hair; a necklace of forty-five ancient beads, of vitreous composition, found two years ago in an Etruscan tomb near Bolsena, and beautifully shaded with white, blue, and green, but not repolished, merely remounted in a rich and tasteful gold setting; a very beautiful wrought and chased gold bracelet, in nine compartments, each of a different design, a facsimile of the treasures of the Marchese Campana's Etruscan Museum; a brooch with pendent chains, copied from a Greek model found in the Crimean museum of Kerch, representing a head of Medusa, with four lions' heads above and below; earrings of Greek design, with antique beads to match the necklace; and, finally, a fibula, or brooch, of smaller dimensions, and of elaborate pattern, similar to the bracelet. These beautiful and classical ornaments are inclosed in an elegant casket of scarlet velvet, embossed with silver.

FUNERAL OF SIR GEORGE CORNEWALL LEWIS.—The remains of this lamented statesman were on Saturday last consigned to their final resting-place among the tombs of his fathers at Old Radnor. The funeral was as unostentatious in character as was the public and private life of the deceased statesman, and had this peculiarity, that all who attended appeared as mourners. Among them were the Earl of Clarendon, Earl Russell, Earl De Grey and Ripon, the Right Hon. C. Pelham Villiers, Mr. Vernon Harcourt, Mr. Lister, Sir Velters Cornwall, Sir Gilbert Lewis, and Mr. Herbert Lewis. About 100 horsemen preceded the hearse containing the body of the deceased, followed by his carriage and those of the distinguished mourners and the gentry of the neighbourhood. The coffin was of massive oak, inclosing a shell, and covered with black cloth, having a brass plate thereon with the following inscription:—"The Right Hon. Sir G. C. Lewis, Bart., died April 13, 1863, aged 57 years." The immense concourse of people present testified by their demeanour that their regret for the loss of this estimable statesman was universal and sincere. Business was suspended in Hereford, Kingston, Knighton, Presteign, Radnor, and other towns during the early part of Saturday.

NILE TRAVELLING.—The Pacha of Egypt is said to contemplate the establishment of a line of steamers suited for Nile navigation, and, in winter, "fitted up with every convenience for European travellers." These vessels may start from Cairo, go up the river on a voyage of which Siout is but in the middle: they will go past Girgeh, past Thebes, Karnac, Luxor, Erment, Medineh Abou, Esneh, Edfon, to Assuan, and there, almost under the tropic, land their cargoes and passengers. A railway from this point to Berber, as proposed, will outdo, in strangeness, the line from Smyrna to Ephesus, opened last year, and offer return tickets to above the Fifth Cataract, where the Nile must be fairly cold with mountain water, where it becomes Nile by the union of the Takatz with the Bahr el Abiad, where the trade of Birmingham, Manchester, London, and Paris may meet that of "utmost Axum," Gondar, Sennaar, Maokha, and the lands under the very Equator itself.

OUR FEUILLETON.

THE LONG RECKONING.

(Continued from page 284.)

CHAPTER XVI.

Salvatore Sbirronero being a regular professional villain, instead of a mere dabbling amateur, though he had caught a most serious crack in the eye, and was dismissed with ignominious and by no means gentle castigation, not only at the hands but at the feet of his intended victim; and though he was turned loose upon the perils of the night—as far as a man with his wrists lashed tightly together behind his back could be said to be turned loose—Salvatore, I say, with all these drawbacks to begin with, and two professional failures to reflect upon, passed, on the whole, a much more satisfactory night than his patron.

"The hand of little experience hath the daintier sense," and vice versa. He cursed and swore to himself as he went along Chiatamone, the foul language intensifying every now and then in renewed efforts to slacken one turn of the *fascia* enough to pass over his left hand. This at last he effected, and then the *fascia* came off bodily. When his limbs were at liberty his reflective faculties had elbow-room to operate.

"*Bestia maledetta* that I was! Why need I have wasted time waiting about the Vico Parete, to see who would come out of that window? That was not in the night's work, and got me into this *impaccio*. Why should I have attempted to stick this great English pig on land, when a better direction was commissioned me?"

"Yet it seemed as if the Madonna had prepared me the *combinazione* on purpose. And so it would have been. But the last time I was in, I vowed that *rottolo* of wax candles to her shrine at the corner of the Supporico d'Asutti, and never performed it when I came out safe and sound. Curse my soul, I am a *scommulgato*. And she recompensed me this night."

"But if I earn these three thousand ducati on the body of that great English *porco*, three *rottoli* of the finest wax shalt thou have without fail; only send me luck, oh blessed Lady of the Seven Griefs!"

"As to that black velvet mouse of a Marchese, I must keep out of his sight till it is done; for, if he finds the first stroke has failed, he is like enough to turn fainthearted. I must not hang about the Vittoria, where he might easily find me. And the big Inglesse knows my face too, and might take alarm if he saw me. I will be at Giuseppe's wineshop in the Vico Dattero. That is well past the turn of the Mergellina, and I shall be able to see him at the steps of the Vittoria landing-place, and get a good start with my boat. Yes, that is it, I will take my spyglass, and have a good pitcher of *Lagrine Criste* and a bundle of cigars up in the loggia, like a Signore, Giuseppe's best *lagrine*, with a spoonful of snow in it, is *una magnificenza*."

He had by this time reached his habitation. It was a single chamber, entered from one of those overarched loggias supported by pillars of masonry, which, in the dwellings of the Italian poor, allow of domiciliary subdivision in large buildings. The staircase and passages of this style of architecture are outside the structure, and are common property of various tenements.

The block of buildings which stood in the Pallonetto di Santa Lucia had rather a stately and imposing air of massive palatial grandeur. Salvatore stole gently up the steps, along the first loggia, up the second flight and along the higher loggia range (as if he had scruples about disturbing the slumbers of his neighbours), and came to his own door. No one was stirring yet, though it was not far from dawn. He turned the key with as little noise as the rusty old lock would admit, entered, closed the door, and lit a crockery lamp that looked like a pitcher (with an ordinary-sized mouth and spout), of which the abdominal region had pined down to the slenderest atrophy. A long white worm of wax lay coiled in a green pool of oil, raising its charred and blackened head into the spout, where, after a little coaxing with the lucifer-match, it put up a feeble flamelet.

By the dim light, Signor Sbirronero's furniture and fittings offered a forcible contrast to his aristocratic confederate's. The list of furniture is easily disposed of—a truckle bed, a chair, and a wooden chest, which might be called either a sofa or a table by a great stretch of euphemism, was all.

A rude crucifix hung over the bed-head. One corner of the chamber was occupied by the fireplace, which was something like that of a forge, with a funnel-shaped projection of chimney, by which hung a few quaint copper cooking utensils.

In another corner stood oars and mast, and stretchers, and boat woodwork festooned with fishing-nets, which looked dry and dusty. A few sails, cordage, floats, fishing-lines, and marine stores generally were heaped, propped, or hung about this corner. On a line crossing overhead were suspended bunches and strings of bright, ruddy tomatoes, looking like gigantic coral necklaces.

From a long iron spike over the door dangled a murderous-looking piece of raw meat, and this Salvatore took down and laid on the lid of the chest. To cut it he had to search a secret hole in the wall for knife number two. Knife number one had been lost in the warfare of the night. Number two was a long, strong-backed, homicidal-looking clasp-knife, not so bright and ornamental as the other weapon, but it proved sharp enough to slice a smooth steak off the red meat.

There was firewood of a slender, twiggy kind littering about the cooking corner, but Salvatore lit no fire. Not that he was such a savage as to eat his meat raw. The steak was to be used as a medicinal, not a culinary application.

He bound it carefully over his swollen and bloodshot eye with a gaudy silk handkerchief, pulled his long, scarlet woollen cap well down over it, took down a heavy, hooded roquelaure from the end of a pole that slanted out from oars and masts, and spars, arranged himself snugly on the truckle-bed, blew out the lamp, and was soon snoring as soundly as if he had been the most respectable inhabitant of a much more respectable neighbourhood than that part of Santa Lucia.

CHAPTER XVII.

Facts are stubborn things. In looking back upon strange incidents it is customary to say they seem like a dream. When Stensal woke next morning, he had a certain, or rather an uncertain, confusion of mind between the things that had happened to him overnight and the scarcely less improbable things he had dreamed. But one stubborn phenomenon presented itself palpably and roundly to his morning's reflection. This was a small circular patch of purple extravasated blood surrounded by a margin of lighter neutral tints shaded into greenish yellow, above the middle of his left eyebrow. The question was, who gave him that bruise? He revolved the question as he stood before his glass and made a tolerably successful arrangement of his blond curls to cover the worst of it and throw a discreet shade over the rest.

The morning's reflections more and more tended to implicate Lady Julia as recollections shook themselves into their places, and analogies established themselves between the mysterious young fisherman's whisperings and Lady Julia's hinted insinuations. What struck him, however, as the strong point of evidence, was the sudden fear which had fallen on the whisperer, at the sound of oars; and the preparation against a pursuit including himself in its quest.

This, taken in connection with Lady Julia's warning against the dagger of the hired assassin, and the actual onslaught which appeared to have awaited his landing, was too circumstantial to be laid to mere fortuitous coincidence. Indeed, he could not help allowing that it looked extremely like some special means of insight into Lord De Vergund's doings, which implied closer intimacy of one kind or another between them than Lady Julia avowed. For he now so far accepted the drift of her warning as to attribute the attempt on his life to De Vergund's instigation.

* *Addict* (inside) and *juor* (outside) in the language of Neapolitan lazzaroni are taken without special reference to mean in prison or out of prison these being the two about equally normal phases of their existence.

Had he not taken this for granted, he would not have felt at liberty to fall in with Gaveloch's proposal of departure. As it was, he thought it right to send Lord De Vergund a note informing him of his movements, and offering to postpone his journey in case Lord De Vergund had any commands for him. The commissionnaire had orders to wait, and inquire if there was any answer. This dispatched, he sat down to breakfast, for Gaveloch was not to be expected yet awhile. By the time breakfast was over and a cigar lit, François, who had been sent to the steam-boat office to secure places, returned. He had inquired at the post-office, which is close by the Messageries, and brought two letters for Stensal. Stensal took them, and, before breaking the seals, told François to see to the passports being all right; and François said he might "tranquillise" himself, he had already put that matter in hand. He had sent the passport commissionnaire of the hotel round by Mr. Firminger's lodgings, and Mr. Firminger had signed them in bed and sent them on to be stamped at the Chancellerie; after which the commissionnaire had got them signed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and brought them on to the packet-office, where places could not be taken till passports were deposited. He, François, in the meantime, had been on board and secured comfortable berths by a gratuity to the steward, and had also time for the post-office—*et me voilà!*

"Très bien, François; you are always au fait. You may tell John to have my things packed in good time, and when Milord is up, if I am gone out, you will remind him of the hour of departure."

"Milord is up, and dressing himself," said François, putting the kettle on the fire and repairing the disorders of the breakfast-table before he left the room.

Stensal first opened the letter addressed in his mother's handwriting:—

"Thorskelf Castle, Nov. 16, 18—.

"My dearest Edmund,—Your letter, I need not tell you, was very welcome. My last, which I fear you would think silly, will have shown you at least how dreadfully anxious I was after getting the hurried note that told me of your sudden journey. Still I quite agree with you in thinking it was your duty, under the circumstances, not to let poor dear hot-headed Ernest run into mischief without some steadier head than his own to take thought for him.

"By your account it would appear that he has been very lukewarmly rewarded for his headstrong devotion. Indeed, by all accounts Lady Ulrica seems to be a truly heartless person. She will be much more suited to Lord Tintagel, in that respect, who treated poor Alice Wolverstone in a way that broke hers, and it is perhaps all the better for Lady Ulrica that she should have none to break. It is a most happy escape for Ernest, for, however wild and reckless, he is not wanting in that, and is only too much carried away by it."

(In the last sentence or two, by a sort of female ellipsis, the important word *heart* appears to be understood.)

"I fear this will prove a great blow to him, and I feel for him, though I am cruel enough to rejoice at his disappointment. It would have been so much worse for it to have come when it was too late, as come it must; and it is high time he should learn a little prudence. I sincerely trust it may prove a warning as well as a blow."

"I hope and suppose you will now soon be home again, and bring Ernest back with you a sadder and a wiser man. You are very much wanted here, and indeed all the county of Balderland is inquiring after you, and wondering what can have taken you away at the beginning of the hunting season. Poor old uncle Philip has been worse; and, though he is not said to be in any immediate danger, there seems to be a sort of stir of the political undercurrents, as if an election were looked forward to. Lord Bransdale, who came here overnight for yesterday's meet, told me about uncle Philip. He had heard from Torquay. He does not think, by his sister's account, that the poor old man will get over the winter. He said it was looked on as a settled thing in that case that you should come forward for the county, and spoke of you, and the good opinion the county has of you, in a manner that was very pleasant to a dotting mother's ears. He said also that you ought to be on the spot, as no one could tell what might happen. Walter Melmerby and John Jarnwith have a suspicion that there is a countermeasures in preparation, but Lord B. thinks that is mere talk, and would be hopeless."

"I feel as if I was writing to the dead-letter office at Naples, which you will, I hope, have left before this reaches its destination; for, though you do not say anything about coming away, I cannot suppose Ernest is likely to linger there after his wild scheme of rescuing Lady Ulrica from a fate she has deliberately accepted, has had cold water thrown upon it."

"Margaret has come in, and when I asked her if she had any messages she began with her dearest love and a kiss, and then had so much more that, as I have got to the end of my half sheet very nearly, I have given her a half sheet of thin paper to overflow upon; for I have not left myself room for half, nor half a millionth part, of my own dearest love and hopes, and must leave them to be understood. God bless you, my dearest own boy, and come safe back to your own old mother."

"MATILDA STENSAL."

"P.S. (this was written across).—Margaret's nonsense is not to be limited by her half sheet, and she keeps talking as she writes; and since John has come into the library they are both doing the same thing; for he has got the other half-sheet, and says he must write you a line on county affairs, though I daresay there will be nonsense in his as well, and I believe they have infected me. Margaret will persist in seeing, through the millstone of her busily-revolving imagination, that there is an interesting mystery about Lord Tintagel's daughter, whom you describe as a beautiful girl of seventeen, with raven locks, and a sad, angry, piercing look of ill-usage in her deep dark eyes. She will have it that you are deeply and darkly interested; and I must confess I had rather you had put your description in less romantic terms; for, though you do not say much, you say enough to show me that your opinion of her is not very favourable. I know you only adopted the high penny literature style by way of a joke; but I had rather, for Margaret's sake, you had condescended to plain prose, and said, 'Lady Julia is a pretty spoilt girl, with black eyes and hair, with a bold, forward, half-foreign manner. She unblushingly avows a fretful and rebellious dislike to her father marrying again, and seems disposed to help Ernest as far as she can, by underhand means, and to relieve herself of Lady Ulrica, though she has little hopes of success.'

"Now I cannot believe that you, my own honest, right-minded boy, who substantially give me this account of the poor, ill-educated child of that wicked old man, can be in any way dangerously interested. I find myself almost writing as if I feared it were so. But Margaret, who in her dear, innocent young heart sees nothing of the real nature of the case under the picturesque surface you have laid upon it, is so convinced that you have lit upon a real heroine of romance that she quite makes me tremble, such cowards are mothers when even the shadow of an imagination of such a peril passes between a mother's soul and the high hopes she cherishes for the true happiness of her son. Forgive me, darling heart, if I have rushed into hysterical absurdity; I cannot see what I have been writing, for my foolish old eyes are suddenly grown dim."

The other letter bore the same date.

"My dear Edmund,—The fences are still stiffish, and we have had some sharp runs. I have had a moderate cropper or two, but am happy to say, have brought none of your hunting-stud to serious grief. I have kept them in fair exercise. Capital run yesterday—an hour and three quarters. Found in your whinn, and killed close to Lupesley, without check; very straight. You know how stiff country, thirteen miles by road. Evelina is certainly a most superior animal—never made a mistake. There was a large field out, and you were much inquired for. The fact is, poor old Philip Bransdale is breaking up fast. There was an alarming account got into the papers. He is over that seizure and out of immediate danger; but the county is beginning to look alive, and you ought to be within reach of the public eye. Mazzard and Folklyffe, you know, have been working up the registration on their side for some time back; and though our side is, out-and-out, the strongest in the county, there are a good many large non-residents who are very compact, and their tenants well under the whip. There is an attempt to get up a cry that the Whig element has been unrepresented ever since your grandfather

moved across the House with Stanley; and though he carried the best of the county Liberals with him, Bransdale is a Tory man, and I fear poor old uncle Phil's tenure of the seat has not strengthened your chances with the Conservative Liberals. No doubt he voted pretty much as they thought, but he was called by the wrong name. You will take from both sides, if there be a contest, and the freeholders will vote for you almost to a man. But you ought to be here. Your mother, being a Grazebroke, gives a semblance of your being second man of the Melmerby lot, though in reality Augustus Grazebroke came in rather under your grandfather's wing. There is a report about that the Duke of Trickleborough, Lord Mascester, and Lord Kilvington have made up a purse, and our old friend Sydney Whitworth will come down to do battle. There is absolutely no great Ministerial Whig name within the county. Old Horatio, Sydney's father, did once make a pretence of keeping up Mascester's Balderland place, with a view to contesting the county in '37, I believe. But I doubt whether Sydney has ever seen the county, except in the map. At any rate, the gorge of all Balderland will rise at Trickleborough's dictation. It may be all very well in Odinshire and Vilisier.

"We lunched at Lupesley yesterday after the run. Sir Kverard is a very shifty bird. But we got a little of the Whig thunder out of him. His natural sympathies are with us; but he has muddled away his political conscience in his dirty little borough. The Wolverstone girls seem, if possible, greater flirts than ever; Selina is certainly very pretty, and Melmerby seems rather smitten with her. The way she makes up to him is something awful. Alice inquired tenderly after you, and when she was told you were last heard of at Naples, and were supposed to be on your way home, she said innocently, 'She had a cousin at Naples, whom she had never seen, and had a great curiosity to hear about.' She wondered whether you would meet her there, and be able to tell them all at Lupesley what sort of girl Lady Julia was. I wondered too, and I still wonder. Love, condolences, and congratulations to Ernest. He is well out of it. Your affectionate cousin,

"JOHN JARNWITH."

His sister Margaret's letter, which came out of the same envelope with Cousin John's, began thus:—

"Dearest Edmund,—Mamma says I am a great goose; but I tell her, out of my Roman history, that it was the geese cried out first when the Capitol was in danger. I am quite convinced by your glowing description that Lady Julia is very nice, though rather naughty; and"—[Here Lord Gaveloch came in saying, "Hallo, old fellow! So you have got letters. Nobody ever writes to me. You've breakfasted long ago, I suppose?"]

"Here's a letter from John, but its all about the county; it won't amuse you much." Here a waiter came in with a smoking omelette, some fresh coffee, and a toast-rack, followed by the messenger who had been sent with the note to Lord De Vergund.

"Eccellenza, there is no reply. The Signor Marchese was not up at first, but after half an hour he sent word that I might go; there was no reply." The messenger and waiter left the room.

"That's a new phase of affairs, your having a correspondence with the Marquis, isn't it, Edmund? And so familiar and unceremonious, too! No reply! What satisfactory truism can you have been propounding so unanswerably, I wonder?" said Gaveloch, making a carvilinear spoon-cut out of the middle of the omelette, while he skimmed his brother's letter without any topic of interest apparently catching his eye. "De Vergund looked duced black last night, and never turned his head in our direction. I suppose you haven't had a row with him about Lady Julia by any chance?"

Gaveloch, having deposited the segment on his plate and turned over John's half sheet on the tablecloth, gave a glance over his shoulder at Stensal, whose eyes were travelling backwards and forwards along the lines of Margaret's nonsense, which he appeared to be wrapped up in perusing; and, indeed, the written words were duly in his eyes, but they conveyed no sense or even nonsense to his brain, which was occupied with thinking how he should evade Gaveloch's question.

"I don't think we are likely to come to blows about Lady Julia. We neither of us have serious enough pretensions to quarrel about. The fact is, I have not been over civil to De Vergund, for I don't like him; and when I don't like a fellow I can't help showing it a little now and then. So I thought it might be better to tell him I was going by to-day's steamer, just in case he might have any last words."

"That sounds uncommonly like my proposition put into rather a milder form. You have no talent for fiction, old fellow."

"I hope not. It seems to me to differ very widely from your proposition." The colour came into Stensal's face as he said this, for he felt that, in the proportion in which it differed, it was an unsuccessful essay in the branch of art for which in the same breath he had congratulated himself on having no talent. Still he had no right to compromise Lady Julia, and he had a hazy reminiscence of what Paley lays down concerning the various degrees of truth we are bound to, in proportion to the right of questioning and the confidence reposed in our answer. Stensal had very little talent for fiction; and it always seemed to him that, however ingenious Paley's argument might be, it was a very dangerous sort of honesty which founded its fulcrum outside of the truth—or quasi-truth—teller's own consciousness. Gaveloch might have no particular right to ask the question, and did not seem very much disposed to be turned aside by the evasive answer.

"At any rate," he added, after a pause, "there is no quarrel between me and De Vergund going forward."

"That I presume by there being no answer to your obliging note. Don't be annoyed, my dear fellow. Perhaps I ought not to have asked you anything about it, but I feel as if I had a sort of responsibility for your safety as you came out to take care of me. I am of no great value to anybody, and, if anything happened to me, there is a better man to fill my place; but you are an only son, and likely to be a useful man in the world, as well as being all in all to your mother. That seemed an ugly scrape you were in last night when I came up. If you had been down that ruffian would not have been amusing himself with tying your hands behind you. And you said you had been in another row. Ah! I see the reason of that refractory lock breaking cover on your forehead."

"Yes, that's the bruise I got in the other row; but I'd rather not be asked much about it. The fact is, I fear, Ernest, we may both, on leaving Naples, have a good deal we wish to forget on our minds; more, perhaps, than we can easily find waters of oblivion to drown. So let us help one another. Let us begin by forgetting all we partly know, or cannot help suspecting, about each other's affairs."

"All right, old fellow! I know I, for one, shall find it a great relief when the steamer carries us round the corner of Cape Miseno, and we are out of sight of this cursed place."

"So, perhaps, shall I. If we leave this at half-past three, I suppose we shall be in good time—half-past eleven?"

Stensal left the room, and when Gaveloch rose from the debris of his omelette and toast, and looked out of the window, he saw him, down on the little landing-place opposite the Vittoria, inflating his boat for a last trip to the Triton's grotto.

"By Jove! that fellow will put his foot in it yet before I get him away. Taking leave is the deuce and all! I have a great mind to"—

Here Gaveloch put on his hat, and went down to the landing-place.

"*Munaggia l'arma da caccia!*" muttered a man, with his eye to a shabby telescope, in a loggia overlooking the Mergellina, about three-quarters of a mile off. "If the cloth boat carries double!"

"If you are going to say good-by to the Tintagels I don't mind going too."

"I'm afraid I can't offer you a place in my boat," said Stensal.

"We might take a carriage. We are safer on land with an appointment to keep. If a breeze springs up you might be late for the steamer."

"I have a particular reason for going by water, and there's lots of time. If you like to come round in a carriage, I will pack up the boat there and come back with you. If you don't come, I will say good-by for you."

"I think I shall be there to say good-by for myself."

The boat was screwed up tight and Stensal launched it, got in,

and paddled away. Gaveloch stood watching him for a little while. "I feel, somehow, as if something would happen," said Gaveloch to himself. "It looks bad, being so determined to go alone. I had rather not have lost sight of him this last morning."

He saw a black speck of a boat come out from behind one of the rough-heaped little jetties of the Mergellina and turn along Posillipo; but he attached no importance to it. It was merely a moving point in the background to the diminishing figure paddling away on the round-backed dolphins.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Stensal was not half a mile from his destination when he turned the corner of a precipitous headland and saw, in the secluded little bay beyond, a boat lying motionless on the still water. The fisherman's face was turned a way, and he seemed busied with the arrangement of his baits and hooks and lines.

As Stensal approached it struck him as rather odd that the fisherman never turned his head. It was true his own craft was a silent goer, having no rowlocks nor thovls; but the dipping from the paddle was enough at so short a distance unless the man was deaf.

He had got abreast of the boat, at about twenty yards' distance, when the man betook himself to his oars; but it was only as the boat turned bodily towards him that he saw the fisherman's face and recognised Salvatore, who threw all his strength into the strokes and rowed straight at him in a manner that was a sufficient declaration of hostilities.

Stensal perceived at once that the aspect of affairs was decidedly grave. He knew his pace was very inferior to that of the wooden boat, and that in a *naumachic* encounter he would labour under the great disadvantage of having nothing solid or stable as his *propugnaculum*. He was perfectly well aware that, once down in the water, all was over with him; and the heavy wooden boat would run him down at once if it came into collision with his frail apparatus, and then that amiable man would have nothing to do but hold him under water till he was drowned.

The first thing he did was to turn his boat round so as to face his assailant; and that very movement, which was a matter of instinct, suggested his line of defensive tactics. The dolphins, having no keel and very slight hold of the water, turned round with great ease and rapidity—with a single strong stroke of the paddle, in fact; whereas the other boat required some turning, especially when it had way on.

The moment he recognised Salvatore, then, he faced him, but paddled away backward at a pace which at first fully equalled that of the heavy boat, which took a minute or two to acquire its momentum. As soon as it had gained upon him so as to be within about eight yards, he suddenly turned at right angles to his course, shot out of the line of pursuit, let the boat go past him, and paddled back in a precisely opposite direction, getting all the start represented by his own pace during the time it took to stop, turn, and get way on again.

Any one who has chased a swan on a lake in a light skiff, and has seen the bird, when almost overtaken, escape by this very facility of turning, will understand Salvatore's difficulty in catching Stensal and Stensal's hopelessness of getting away from Salvatore.

After being dodged in the same way five or six times, Salvatore began to grow angry, to put on unnecessary speed, to forejudge which way his quarry was about to turn, and to begin to turn prematurely himself, which was not of the slightest use, as Stensal could make a feat of turning one way, and, when the pursuer had followed suit, reverse the movement. Once or twice he had left his oars and made an ineffectual attempt to grapple with the boat-hook, which never proved quite long enough.

Stensal knew better than to use more exertion than he could keep up, but he began to find the recurrence of the same round monotonous. His British spirit rebelled against Parthian tactics without arrows, and he longed to be at close quarters. He made a show of exhaustion, and began to pant and blow, and to paddle less vigorously; observing which, Salvatore redoubled his efforts, expecting eventually to run him down.

When the manoeuvres had become mechanical by repetition, and Salvatore had made up his mind that it was to be done by wearing out the fugitive (who really had far lighter work than himself), and when the sharp effort had begun to tell upon the pursuer, Stensal was within his eight yards. Which way would he turn this time? Right or left? Suddenly he made two forward strokes; in the next moment he roared with a great shout and a forward spring from his elastic floatage, bounded over the swiftly-closing prow, and alighted on his feet in the enemy's boat, with the advanced blade of his paddle in the enemy's ribs. It was a flying tilt that would have done credit to an old hand at the ancient sport of water quintain.

Salvatore, who had expected nothing so little as such a sudden termination of the chase, had not time even to disembarass himself of the oars or to seize his knife, which lay handy on the seat before him. As it happened, it would have been of little use to him, for he fell sprawling on his back in the stern with all his remaining wind knocked out of him, and three broken ribs on the top of that disagreeable vacuum.

Stensal, in flooring his enemy, tumbled over the front seat, narrowly escaping injury from the open knife, but he was up again in a moment and none the worse. He expected that the struggle was to come; and was surprised, if not disappointed, when in his hurry he gave the man a fresh taste of the paddle, to find him make no response further than a faint gurgling gasp or so. He took possession of knife number two, shut it, and pocketed it.

In a minute or two Salvatore was alarmingly sick, and Stensal thought at first he was throwing up blood; however, it was only a pint or two of the *lagrime*, which, with a handful of snow, was a *magnificence*.

When he had convinced himself that the man was thoroughly *hors de combat*, and required no tying up, for he groaned most piteously at any attempt to move him, Stensal picked up his own conveyance, which was drifting away loose, and tethering it to the stern of the captured vessel, took the oars, and soon was descried in the offing from Lady Julia's watch-tower, a seat cut in the tufa rock at the top of the bluff under which lay the Triton's grotto.

(To be continued.)

THE JEWS IN POLAND.

The position of the Jews in Russia, of course excepting some of the more wealthy, who may be considered as exercising a money power in the State, has, till late years, been subject to considerable hardship, since the Emperor Nicholas had a decided objection to their living at St. Petersburg, and placed them under certain disabilities, which, however, did not prevent their being subject to the conscription for the Russian army or navy. Still, throughout Russia and even in the Ukraine, the children of Israel abound, and carry on much the same callings as those which occupy them in other parts of Europe. The traveller will discover, too, that they are as importunate as their brethren all over the world, and that the little fair of a Cossack town will have its Jew money-changer, seated behind a rickety wooden table covered with piles of copper coin.

It is especially at Breslau, the capital of Silesia, and connected with Warsaw by rail, that you may see the Polish Jew in his real, unaltered gabardine; for Breslau is, in fact, the usual halting-place for Polish travellers to and from that kingdom. The keepers of hotels and inns are mostly Jews, and, indeed, there are few paying speculations in Poland which have not one or more Jews connected with them. The modern Polish phraseology characterises them as "persons of the Mosaic confession," and there are many of them amongst the true patriots who regard Poland as their country. This is the case even in Silesia, where the mass of the peasants are opposed to the patriotic party, and the *Year-book of the Israelites* for 1861 contains some excellent advice on the subject of the Poles being their best friends. A writer in this book remarks that the Jews are Poles, only of a different religion.

One of our Engravings represents the real Polish Jew of the poorer class, who carries on his trade amongst the insurgents, with whose cause he sympathises; while our other Engraving is a faithful representation of the real workday costume which the Polish climate requires.

THE GEORGE GRISWOLD AT LIVERPOOL.

SHORTLY after the arrival of the ship George Griswold at Liverpool with the American contributions to the relief of the distress in Lancashire, Divine service was one Sunday celebrated on board the ship in the Waterloo Dock, Liverpool, when a very numerous audience assembled. The ship was put in complete order for the occasion. At the foremast was the English ensign; at the main were the signal of the Griswold House and the Bethel flag; at the mizen, the stars and stripes. The assembly was composed of ladies and gentlemen from all parts of the town, who filled the large space between decks and around the hatchways on deck.

The Rev. Dr. Buck, Superintendent of the Seamen's Friend Society and Bethel Union, introduced the Chaplain of the George Griswold, the Rev. Charles W. Denison, who commenced the services by reading the following hymn, composed by him for the occasion. It was sung with excellent effect to the air of "The Old Hundred:"—

O! God of nations! who hast taught
All kindreds to give thanks to Thee,
We bless Thy gracious hand, that brought
Our Bark of Mercy o'er the sea.

Thanks be to God, enthroned above,
And guiding every ocean's flood,
Who sent a nation's gift of love
To seal the tie of kindred blood.



A POLISH VIVANDIERE.

GIFT FROM THE EDINBURGH VOLUNTEERS TO THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

We give on this page an Engraving of a magnificent brooch, presented by the Highland companies of the Edinburgh volunteers to her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and which is now to be seen with the other marriage gifts at South Kensington.

The basis of this splendid piece of jewellery is a wide circlet of silver, richly enamelled with an elaborate twisted ornament, above which the initial letters of the Christian names of the Prince and Princess are raised in gold. The circlet is surmounted by a crowned shield of gold, having the armorial bearings of the Prince as Duke of Rothesay and the Royal arms of Denmark impaled upon it, the crown set with pearl. The shield is supported upon Prince of Wales's feathers in silver, and thistle leaves in gold. Upon a scroll under these is the ancient Scottish motto, "In defence, God me defend." At each side of the brooch is a deep-coloured cairngorm, raised upon a crown of gold, while below is a St. Andrew's crown in enamel, upon a setting of thistles formed of pearls and amethysts. The whole is surrounded by an engraved rim of gold, studded with Scotch pearls. On the obverse is an inscription in Gaelic—"Welcome and Hail to the Daughter of Denmark—From the Land of the Mountain, 1863." The design for this truly artistic work was furnished by Mr. James Drummond, R.S.A., and the work has been executed with great skill and taste by Messrs. G. and M. Crichton, North-bridge, Edinburgh.



BROOCH PRESENTED TO THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA BY THE EDINBURGH HIGHLAND VOLUNTEERS.



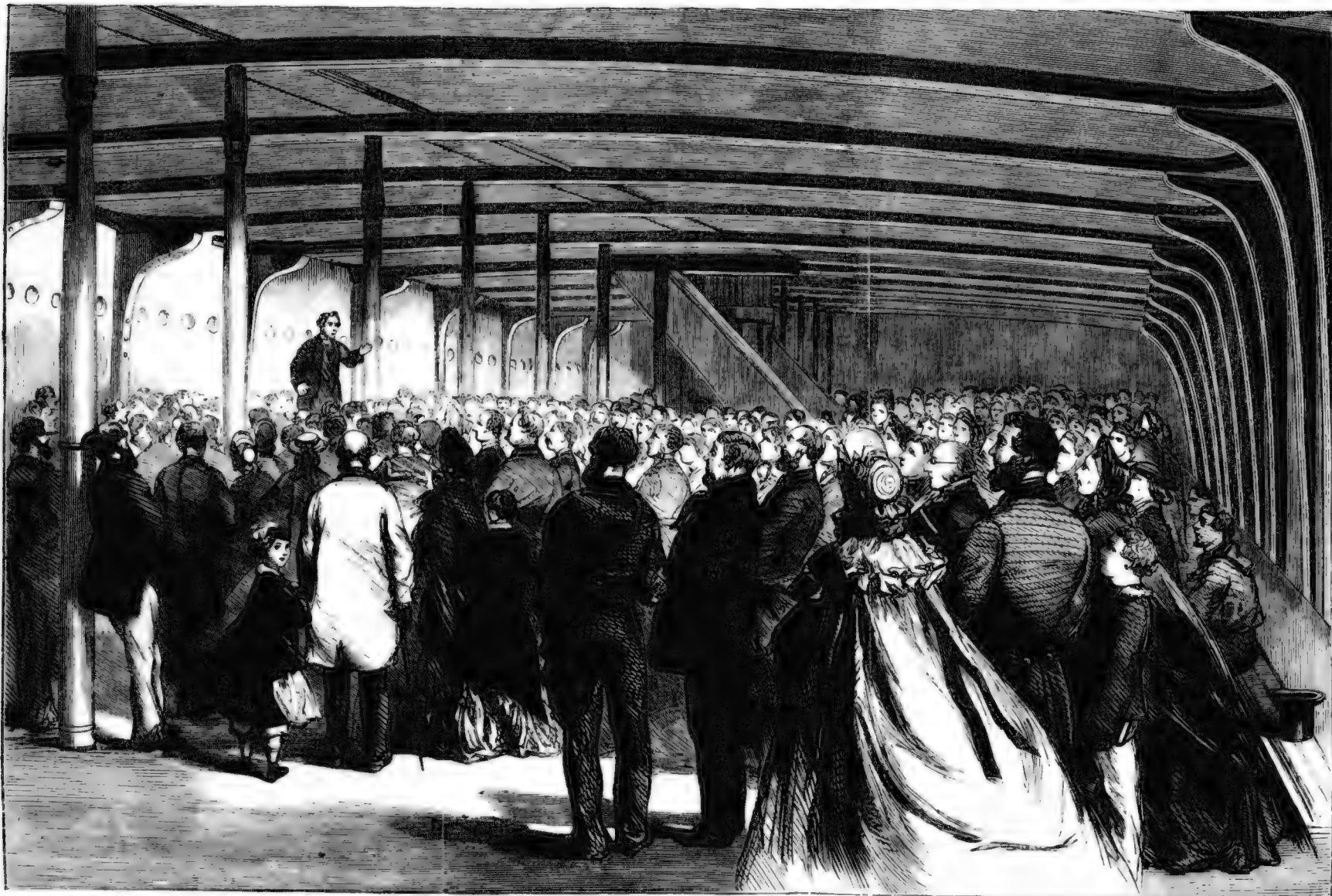
JEW HAWKER IN THE INSURGENT CAMP.

England extends her grateful hands:
And greets America to-day:
God of our Fathers! bind our lands
In bonds of endless peace, we pray.

Together be our flags entwined,
Never in strife to be unfurled;
Blessing and blest of human kind,
The joy and ransom of the world.

Dr. Buck offered an appropriate prayer, in which he earnestly solicited that the two great countries of England and America might remain in peace and prosperity for ever.

The Rev. C. W. Denison read the 107th Psalm, and then proceeded to address the assemblage. He said the ship, her cargo, and mission were the best sermon that could be preached at that time, and he would only add a few words of practical application. His text was in Psalm cxv. 1,—"Not unto us, not unto us, O Lord, but unto thy name give glory for thy mercy and thy truth's sake." He said the Psalmist acknowledged the glory of God toward his people, and so should we acknowledge it now. The advent of the George Griswold had been hailed with every popular demonstration of approval; but let us be careful to render the honour due to the Most High. It was He who had instigated this national gift; it was He who had caused that to grow which filled the ship of mercy; it was He who had put it into the hearts of the donors to send the ship and cargo to the sufferers of England as a free gift of goodwill from America;



DIVINE SERVICE ON BOARD THE PACKET-SHIP GEORGE GRISWOLD.

and to Him should be rendered the tribute of thanksgiving. The rev. gentleman predicted that blessed results would flow to both England and America from this auspicious event. It was an opening of the era of good feeling; and the blessing of Heaven would rest upon it. The friends of Christianity and human freedom would rejoice over it, not only in Lancashire, but wherever it was known throughout the civilised world.

The discourse was received with great favour. On several occasions the audience testified their approbation, and would have done so more frequently had it not been for the peculiar nature of the day and the occasion. At the close of the discourse another hymn, written by Mr. Denison, was sung; after which Dr. Buck pronounced the benediction, and the assembly dispersed.

THE NORTH COURT OF SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

THE exhibition of the Royal wedding presents in this court has considerably changed its appearance from that which it presented when our Engraving was taken. Some of the large glass cases have been removed into the two smaller courts, where many of the splendid works of art collected for the special exhibition are still displayed; and in place of them has been arranged a sort of large casket, through which crowds of people pass, or rather are pushed and ordered, in irresistible terms of politeness from the police of "Move on!" "Make haste there, if you please!" all day long. The four sides of this are lined with white and festooned prettily with myrtle and laurel leaves, the outer parts of our imaginary casket being covered with red cloth and ornamented with some of the choice objects of art of the museum. On each side tower are two tall crimson masts, precisely taken from those in front of St. Mark's, at Venice, bearing streamer

pennons, with the arms of the Prince of Wales on one and of the Princess of Denmark on the other, with their respective national mottoes. Behind these, and at the extreme north side, is seen a fine example of Italian architecture—the tribune of the conventual church of Santa Chiara, Florence, a work ascribed to Simone Pollaiuolo, and erected in 1493. In form it is like a porch with fluted columns in front and pilasters; and, as it is now seen, the magnificent Venetian lantern of the Soulagues Collection hangs from the centre, and at each side beneath are busts of the Queen and Prince Albert, with shrubs growing in pots and statues placed near, amongst which the most remarkable is a beautiful Cupid, attributed to

Rovezzano and the famous Jacopo Sansovino, the date of which is 1490; and a similar work of rather later date—a lavato or fountain for domestic use, carved in Istrian marble, and brought from Venice. The fountain which stands on the right of this entrance, with a statuette of Bacchus surmounting it, is a fine example of Florentine work of the sixteenth century; as a pendant to it, is placed a cast of The Graces by Pilon, a French sculptor of the Renaissance. There are also to be noticed a fine statue of a Jason, of the school of Michael Angelo; and a scagliola cast from the unique bronze wolf of the Capitol at Rome—a work of antique art so famous that it was referred to by Cicero. The little



THE LONG RECKONING.—A BOAT ACTION, IN WHICH SALVATORE SBIRRONERO GETS THE WORST OF IT.—SEE PAGE 299.

Michael Angelo, which was in the recently purchased Gilt Campana collection. At the angles of the court are the colossal statue of "David" on one side, of which celebrated statue we gave a drawing on a former occasion; and at the other the colossal Waterloo Vase by Mr. Westmacott, which formerly stood in the hall of the National Gallery. Around the vase are at present grouped some statues of the English school. At the piers between the arches which lead to the side aisles are placed, with excellent effect, all round the court, busts in marble and bronze, chiefly the work of Italian sculptors of the Renaissance. The cases in the aisles contain many rare and beautiful examples of Italian art in sculpture of wood and marble, bronze and metal work. Above the entrance to the court has been most appropriately placed the beautiful marble Cantoria, or singing gallery, which Mr. Robinson purchased when the church of Sta. Maria Novella, in Florence, was being altered, the work of Baccio d'Agnolo, an architect and sculptor of the sixteenth century.

In the wall below, at each side of the doorway, are a lavato or fountain in marble, by Benedetto da



THE NEW NORTH COURT OF THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

figures of Romulus and Remus suckled, as the fable said, by a wolf, are considered to have been added by some sculptor of the fifteenth century. This interesting cast was made by the Marchese Campana himself at Naples, and was purchased at the Florence exhibition in 1861. The walls of the court are at present painted green, and it is intended to fix upon them the lunette paintings which are now hung above the arches. Against the walls are ranged at intervals the splendid carved wood dressoirs of French and Italian work, and the magnificent carved and gilt Venetian chairs, of which we gave some engravings soon after they were bought for the museum.

An object of very great interest to all lovers of art, and especially to all Englishwomen, is the bust of the late Anna Jameson, by Gibson, who specially inscribes his work as done out of admiration and in honour of her. The bust, however, is presented by the friends and admirers of Mrs. Jameson; and few women merited the mark of esteem better, for she did much for the study of art, and left her own monument in the art-literature of the country.

The court is almost too brightly lit by the extensive glass and iron roof, but this can, of course, be modified if necessary, when it is occupied, as it was from the first intended to be, by works of Italian sculpture and monumental objects only, especially those designed originally to be placed in the open air. All the new courts are designed by Captain Fowke, and erected under his direction. The decorations, of which some specimens have been done in the adjoining courts, are designed, and we believe executed, by Mr. Godfrey Sykes, of the School of Design, and his assistant. They are of the elaborate and highly coloured and gilt order, but the general effect cannot be judged of until a whole side of a court is completed. A prominent feature seems to be the filling of the bays or alcoves of the wall with portraits of all the artists.

There are still most of the rare and beautiful objects lent for the special exhibition, and which we noticed at the time in detail, to be seen. The Rothschild Collection, the Duke of Hamilton's enamels, Mr. Webb's unequalled ivories, some of the Henri Deux ware, the rare Oriental and Venetian glass of Mr. Slade and Mr. F. Baring; Mr. Hope's wonderful jewels, in the rough and cut and polished, and his unique onyx ewer; Mr. Stackhouse Acton's antique gems, and a splendid assortment of pearls and curious rings, with Sèvres china, and many other objects of such beauty that it needs not to be a connoisseur to be delighted with a visit to the new courts of the South Kensington Museum.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THE musical season has set in with its usual severity. After fasting for eight or nine months, the unfortunate London amateur is now compelled to cram into a few weeks all the sustenance of which he stands in need. No wonder if he occasionally complains of indigestion. Since last summer we have really had no opportunities of listening to music, except at the admirable Monday Popular Concerts, at the oppressively grand oratorio performances at Exeter Hall, and at the representations of English Opera. Now, for three months, London will not only be the most musical city in Europe, but it will be more musical than all the rest of Europe put together. Already monster concerts are announced, which are to begin at twelve and to last until the unhappy performers—and still more unhappy listeners—are summoned to some opera which will not conclude till one o'clock in the morning. It is no slight aggravation of the amateur's vexation at being thus fatigued with the intellectual nutriment he cannot consent to forego that he is compelled to pass half his existence in stifling rooms, just when the summer air is tempting him to leave the "busy haunts of men." It is exactly in the dog-days that the annual music mania becomes most virulent; but strong symptoms of the coming insanity have already set in. No less than five different operas, mostly performed for the first time this season; three orchestral performances, all on a very large scale; besides several concerts of classical chamber music, have been given within the seven days which we have now to briefly chronicle.

The event which has yet excited the most interest among opera-goers is the debut of Mdle. Carlotta Patti. The young lady has had many disadvantages to contend with. It was unfortunate that her lameness prevented her from appearing for the first time in some dramatic performance, and it was still more unfortunate that she has not, as yet, appeared at all until half-past eleven at night, when the appreciative powers of the audience have been well-nigh exhausted. Although in facility of execution Mdle. Carlotta is quite equal to her celebrated sister, and although in compass of voice she has the advantage, we doubt if the new comer will ever acquire the enormous popularity which has rewarded Adelina Patti's exertions. Irreproachable and even wonderful as are Mdle. Carlotta's vocal achievements, her singing is strangely devoid of charm. The greatest feat has been her facile version of "Gli angeli d'inferno," the celebrated bravura air of the Queen of Night in "Die Zauberflöte," which is rarely essayed by the most daring soprano, and the perfect rendering of which in all its force and vigour seems almost impossible to modern voices. That in Mozart's time there were soprano who could sing much higher than any of our day is proved by his own anecdote of the Signora Guari, who in her old age sung in his presence the all but impossible cadence which the boy-composer wrote expressly for her, and in which a sustained C in altissimo occurs. Making the fullest allowance for the heightening of pitch since Mozart's day, this is a note which seems quite unattainable by any living vocalist. In the song of the Queen of Night, Mdle. Carlotta touches the F, which repeatedly occurs, with such perfect ease as to satisfy the hearer that even that note does not define the "top of her compass," and to lead him to believe the report that she can sing up to G sharp. All the staccato effects of this wonderfully fine air were given with admirable point, but the want of dramatic power damped the impression made by her fine singing. Her vocalisation in the cavatina "O luce di quest'anima," was no less perfect, an admirably sustained shake on D flat and E flat being its most remarkable feature. Mdle. Carlotta's rendering of Eckert's weak Echo song suffered by comparison with the more dashing version that her sister introduces into "Il Barbiere." Before the concert which has served to introduce this brilliant debutante, "Norma" has each time been given, with Mdle. Fricci in the principal character. The lady's fresh and powerful voice occasionally tells well, but it is very tremulous and sadly uncertain in intonation. Her dramatic vigour, however, wins her frequent applause. Signor Naudin's Pollio is the best we can hope to witness in Tamberlik's absence, and Mdle. Dottini is a very indifferent Adalgisa.

A new ballet has been the most important novelty at HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. We can certify from personal knowledge that it is worth seeing; but, as we have not the slightest notion what it is about, we had better not attempt to describe it. The mere title of the ballet, "La Farfallita," will suggest the opportunities it affords for dancing; but we may venture to add that the word means "butterfly," and is not, as all our contemporaries have informed us, the name of a fairy. A lighter or more graceful butterfly than Mdle. Ferraris it would not be easy to find. She alights on a rosebud as though it were her custom to flit from flower to flower, and chase her sister butterflies away. There are many dances with more vigour and aplomb than Mdle. Ferraris, but none more elegant. The final galop is enlivened by costumes of the wildest extravagance.

"Lucia di Lammermoor" was revived at this house on Tuesday for Mdle. Tiens, who, although the character even now does not suit her thoroughly, has much refined her singing of all the brilliant music allotted to the unhappy heroine. Signor Giuglini's gentle warbling as Edgardo, and M. Gasser's emphatic declamation in the part of Ashton, are too well known to need comment.

At a concert given on Tuesday by the Vocal Association an operetta, "The Rose of Salency," by Mr. Chalmers Masters, was produced. The plot is weak, and the words are still weaker; but the music, though by no means original, is agreeable and elegant, the choruses being the most uniformly satisfactory portion of the work. Since we last wrote there has been a meeting of the Old Philharmonic Society, remarkable for nothing but the presence of Prince Alfred and two of his younger sisters; and also a New Philharmonic concert, admirable in every respect, and remarkable for the fine playing, by Mdme. Arabella Goddard and Mr. Lazarus, of two little-known

concertos—that for the pianoforte being one of the earliest compositions of Weber, and that for the clarinet one of the very latest and finest of Mozart.

FINE ARTS.

THE INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THE society known for the last thirty years as the New Society of Painters in Water Colours, is no longer to bear a name which was appropriate enough when the society was formed out of the artists who were not inclined to continue to exhibit with the original society commonly spoken of, for the sake of distinction, as the Old Society. The younger body, now assuming the title of "Institute," has fought a good fight and maintained a good position, under the able generalship of Mr. H. Warren, Mr. Louis Haghe, and Mr. Fahey (the secretary), furnishing from time to time some first-rate recruits for the old body, and attracting fresh talents into their own circle. They have now reaped their reward, in the munificent donation from the late Mr. Woodburn of £500, and to this, we presume, is to be attributed the new start and fresh lease of life the society has taken by purchasing a spacious new gallery, still in Pall-mall, but nearer the heavens, and altogether a far more cerulean, airy, and becoming abode for works of perhaps the most charming and delicate form that art can produce. It is satisfactory to be able to pronounce the present exhibition one of the best we ever remember to have seen in the gallery of this society. Most of the members appear to have felt the spur of the occasion, and exerted themselves to give élat to the first exhibition of the institute. Mr. Louis Haghe, the president, has, perhaps, never produced two such superb pictures as his "Andrea Dandolo leaving the Church of St. Mark after taking the Cross" (62) and "Benvenuto Cellini and Francis I. at Fontainebleau" (273). The interior of the famed St. Mark's, of Venice, has never been represented in water colours with more breadth and truth. The splendid ornamentation of the gold mosaics and the pillars of richest marble is managed with surprising effect. To all this is added the admirably-told incident of the old Doge, fired with enthusiasm, tottering along, leaning upon two magnificent crusaders, each bearing aloft his red-cross banner. The other near figures are extremely picturesque; and the crowd of people that fills the grand space beneath the cupola is a very striking part of the picture. Fontainebleau contains the most superb examples of Renaissance art at its best period, as St. Mark's does those of the dawn of the style. The magnificent chamber depicted by Mr. Haghe is covered with a series of large entablatures, supported at the sides by caryatide figures and festoons of fruit and flowers, and scroll-work above and below. These are filled with fine paintings by Primatizze, the carved work being the work of the celebrated Liosso. We have said enough to show how difficult must be the task of painting such a chamber as this; nevertheless, the artist has reproduced it, and in a most delightful form, for he has touched it with living beauty by introducing into his picture the lovely Mdle. d'Estamps, the enslaver of the great Francis I., and given interest to it by showing us the ever-glorious and conceited Benvenuto bragging to the King about the unequalled symmetry and exactness of the bronze statue he is exhibiting. Nothing can be more glowing and rich than the colouring thrown into the dresses of the courtly company which the King is addressing, and the effect of warm light diffused through the long apartment is most beautifully rendered.

Mr. Carl Werner's drawings have always been remarkable for minute finish of architectural detail and for delicate effects of shadow. This year his subjects are mostly from the East and from Jerusalem, though there is one singular exception in the drawing representing Mr. Murray the publisher's room, where all his great geniuses used to assemble of an afternoon—Scott, Byron, Moore, Canning, Hallam, Gifford, Barrow, Disraeli—rather a guess-work kind of production, yet particularly well executed. But Mr. Werner's other drawings are very different from this. "The Entrance to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem" (369), is most remarkable for the fine qualities we have alluded to, and the Wailing-place of the Jews is another admirable drawing. Mr. E. Warren's landscapes challenge comparison with oil paintings for their richness of colour, and the power with which they depict the appearance of the natural landscape. His skies are bad, as is generally the case when so much minute touching is bestowed upon the work. It is the same with Mr. Werner's pictures. "A Cornfield" (40), with extensive view of country beyond, is the most successful of Mr. Warren's drawings. The question arises whether this exact and realistic method of Mr. Warren is to be preferred to the older work of the water-colour painters, and their simple use of transparent and semi-opaque colours. By way of comparison, we may look at the excellent drawings by Mr. W. Bennett; for example, his "Barden Tower and River Wharfe, York" (57), or his "Hayfield in Derbyshire" (117). Mr. Whymper's landscapes are full of natural feeling. Mr. J. C. Reed, again, paints with great power and with a truth to nature, without the employment of artifice. Mr. Aaron Penley, in his "View of Buttermere" (200), produces very beautiful effects with the most legitimate means of water colour. Mr. Fahey has several good landscapes, especially "Ludlow Castle and Bridge" (16). Mr. J. H. D'Egville's "Rivo San Protasio, Venice," is another example of fair landscape-painting. But it may be doubted whether any work in the new method will ever equal in airiness and brilliant atmosphere such charming drawings as Mr. Bowditch's "Sorrento" (206) and "Castle of Ischia" (192). Mr. W. L. Leitch has some excellent works showing the same adherence to the orthodox manner. Mr. J. H. Mole has never been more happy in his charming picturesque figures and landscape than in "A Stable-field in Lancashire" (152), with grey-stone buildings, and some children gleaners. Mr. Absolon's subjects are generally a little too much for him; nothing requires more complete freedom in every way—touch, colouring, and rapidity of execution—than scenes in which there are so much movement and fun as in "Kiss in the Ring" (191). The work may be ever so neat and sweet in colour, but it must not show stiffness. For the same reasons his "When Sorrow sleepeth" is too formal and clean to accord with the pathetic suggestion of a heartbroken village maiden asleep under a hedge.

The figure-subjects of the exhibition are not of a very satisfactory order. Mr. Tidey's large drawing of "Christ Blessing Little Children" is good in feeling, but his idea of colour is too feeble, and the composition is altogether too artificial and isolated. Mr. Wehnert is a master of technicalities, but his finely-painted drawing, "Fra Filippo Lippi and Lucrezia Buti" (301) is lamentably mistaken in expression. Mr. Augustus Bouvier's "Princess Elizabeth (afterwards Queen) entering London a Prisoner of State" shows abundance of faculty for composition and painting, but wants more character in the heads, and less care in producing a smooth, rich-toned drawing. By Mr. E. H. Corbould there is a remarkable work, a memorial design, which was painted for the Queen, and is exhibited by permission of her Majesty. It is a kind of imitation in painting of a triptych opened, showing an allegorical portrait of the late Prince Consort, in golden armour, and holding the sword of Faith. It is a beautifully-executed work, though somewhat singular in sentiment. Mr. Jopling has several good picturesque figure-subjects of Roman character. Mr. W. W. Deane's drawings of old streets and buildings, chiefly in Brittany, with figures, are noticeable for their natural, unaffected colouring. Mr. John Chase's "Roslyn Chapel" (291) is one of the best views of this beautiful ruin that has ever been painted.

Mrs. Margret surpasses herself and equals Mr. Hunt in her flowers and fruit. "May and Birdnest" (247) is perfect rivalry of nature.

SOCIETY OF FEMALE ARTISTS.

The seventh exhibition of this society was opened to the public on Monday last, at a new and more commodious gallery in Pall-mall. The pictures are, on the whole, superior to those of last year, though we should be glad to see our English lady artists bet or able to compete with those of France and Sweden in works which demand a more complete acquisition of the technical part of painting. Mdme. Jerichau does not equal the beauty of the works either of Rosa Bonheur or Mdme. Henriette Broun; but her large picture in this exhibition, "Britannia Rules the Waves," is far in advance of any-

thing of its kind to be seen here. On the other hand, her portraits of the Brothers Grimm, though no doubt perfect likenesses, are not, we think, equal, as specimens of portrait-painting, to Mrs. Carpenter's portrait of John Gibson, R.A. (154). And in this line of art we might mention Mrs. Swift's portrait of Miss Townley (178) as of superior excellence. By Mdle. Amalia Lindgren, a Swedish artist, who exhibited also in the International Exhibition there are two very clever pictures, rather drily painted, but well studied. These are "Girl Boring the Cownhorn" (161), among the mountains of Dalecarlia, Sweden, and a cottage interior of the same country, with an old woman working with red worsted, her little grandson squatting on the table, tremendously puzzled how to thread her needle with the thick worsted. Miss Kate Swift has evidently the ability, and has only to learn how to perceive the nicer gradations of light, shade, and the relations of coloured objects in contact, to become a first-rate artist in the domestic genre. Her picture of a grandmother and little pet grandchild, called "Saying Grace" (158), promises well.

Mrs. Robertson Blaine paints landscapes in oil with very considerable effect. Her pictures of the Puerta del Callos, Toledo, and Le Puy, France, are a decided improvement upon those Eastern scenes of the desert which first drew attention to Mrs. Blaine's talent. Miss E. St. John Mildmay exhibits a very pleasing drawing of Florence and a sketch of the Carmelite Convent, Spezia, both showing a genuine feeling for landscape. Miss Frapp exhibits several good drawings, particularly a small one of St. Mark's, Venice. Miss Louise Rayner has, we are glad to see, escaped from Roslyn Chapel, and shows that her talent is far more effective in open-air views of old streets, like "Chippinham" (41) and "Chester" (51), with picturesque country figures. Miss Florence Peel has one especially clever piece of still-life painting, "Gems of the Ocean"; and those sparkling red mullet, mackerel, and smelt may fairly be called gems, so bright and rich in colour are they. Among several other fair specimens of flowers and fruit we noticed some chrysanthemums by Miss C. James, excellently well touched. "A Mountain Stream" (200), by Miss J. Forster, has a suspicion of open-air study about the grey stones and the trees to which we hope the lady pleads guilty. On the screens there are some amusing caricatures in pen and ink by Miss Claxton, also some outline illustrations by the Misses Taylor of the "Idylls of the King," and a few good miniatures, with some etchings, by Miss Florence Caddy.

The set of three bas-reliefs in marble by Miss Durant are really very fine. The subjects are Thetis dipping the infant Achilles, Achilles receiving his armour from Vulcan, and the mourning over the dead body of the fallen hero.

The Old Society of Painters in Water Colours have their private view to-day (Saturday), the exhibition opening on Monday.

The Royal Academy private view will take place on Friday next, and the exhibition will open, as usual, on the first Tuesday in May.

PISCICULTURE.

MR. F. BUCKLAND, on the evening of the 17th instant, delivered a lecture at the Royal Institution on "The Artificial Incubation of Fish." The theatre was crowded with ladies and gentlemen—the Duke of Northumberland taking the chair:—

After noticing some facts relating to the extraordinary productiveness of fish (a turbot, weighing eight pounds, for instance, having been found with 485,000 eggs), and describing the manner in which eggs were deposited in rivers by salmon and trout, and the natural manner in which fish were hatched, Mr. Buckland described the artificial manner in which fish were hatched. The apparatus might be easily provided. The spawn is collected and transferred to boxes containing gravel that has been boiled, to kill the insects it contains, and through the boxes a stream of water, not deeper than an inch and a half, is kept constantly flowing, at a temperature of about 40 or 45 degrees. All that is then required is the practice of the sometimes very difficult art, as Mr. Buckland observed, of letting things alone, for about thirty-five days, when the little fish will come out of the eggs. In that first stage of development they have no mouths, but each one is provided by nature with a bag attached to the gills, which supplies it with nutriment until further advanced in growth. With the aid of the electric lamp several eggs were exhibited just before they were hatched, with the fish visible inside and moving about. The embryo fish, on first bursting from the eggs, with their bags of nutriment attached, were also exhibited swimming in water. Though they had no mouths they were provided with large eyes, and their hearts could be seen beating rapidly. When further developed they are placed in ponds and fed. In England the food given to them is liver ground very fine, but in France, Mr. Buckland said, they are characteristically fed with frogs. When sufficiently advanced to provide their own food, the fish are introduced into the rivers to take care of themselves, and to repay, when afterwards caught, for the pains bestowed on them in their infancy. In this manner 40,000 fish, comprising salmon, trout, greyings, and chad, were put into the Thames last year; and as the cost of rearing them is not much more than a farthing each, if only a small proportion grow up and come back to be caught, they will repay the expense. In France the rivers have been stocked with as many as six millions of fish of various kinds. Mr. Buckland concluded by noticing the attempts being made to transfer salmon to Australian rivers by packing the eggs in ice, and by exhibiting some young salmon hatched from eggs brought from Sweden. At the conclusion of the lecture, Mr. Buckland made a feeling allusion to his father, the late Dr. Buckland, and there was a burst of applause unusual with the audience at the Royal Institution.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

THETFORD.—The polling for the representation of Thetford took place on Tuesday. Mr. Harvey, a local banker, started as an independent candidate only on the morning of the nomination; but, having much local influence he was enabled to run the Grafton nominee pretty hard; the numbers at the close of the poll being—For Lord Frederick Fitzroy, 93; for Mr. Harvey, 81 majority, 12.

RAIMOR BOROUGH.—Mr. Green Price, a considerable landed proprietor in the district, has announced himself as a candidate for the seat vacant by the death of Sir G. C. Lewis, and, it is believed, will not be opposed.

DUBLIN.—Mr. J. H. Hamilton, M.P. for the county of Dublin, having resigned his seat, his son, Mr. Tarrant Hamilton, has been elected in his stead without opposition.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY.—A movement is believed to be on foot for onsting the Chancellor of the Exchequer from his seat for the University of Oxford, in consequence, particularly, of the course he took in supporting Sir Morton Peto's Burial Bill. The names of Sir Stafford Northcote, Lord Robert Cecil, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, Lord Chelsea, and Dr. Marsham, Warden of Merton College, have been mentioned as probable candidates. As Sir S. Northcote, however, who was formerly Mr. Gladstone's private secretary, will not, it is believed, oppose his former chief, some of the other parties named will have to be selected if the clerical party determine to sever the connection that has long continued between the University and their most distinguished living son.

EAST SOMERSETSHIRE.—Sir William Miles, Bart., who entered Parliament in 1818, and has represented East Somersetshire since 1834, does not purpose to offer himself for re-election; and Sir Arthur Hallam Elton, of Clevedon Court, has issued an address to the electors announcing his intention to come forward as a candidate for the seat. Sir Arthur is an advanced Liberal.

ANTRIM.—Mr. Edward O'Neill has addressed the electors of the county of Antrim, offering himself for the seat left vacant by the succession of General Upton to the peerage.

THE CITY POLICE.—A highly influential meeting of the masters and wardens of the various livery companies in the City was held on Tuesday in the Mansion House to consider the Government plan for the amalgamation of the City and metropolitan police. The Lord Mayor, who had called the meeting, took the chair; and the speakers were Mr. Cubitt, M.P.; Mr. Underwood, Mr. Sergeant Payne, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Lawrence, &c. The feeling against the proposed amalgamation was strong and unanimous, and resolutions against the bill were passed with acclamation. Meetings have also been held in Southwark and Marylebone, at which similar resolutions were adopted.

"WARRING ON WOMEN AND ON BOYS."—A Warsaw letter has the following strange narration:—"I commence by pointing out to you a victory gained by the Russians over some boys from ten to twelve years of age at some being Russians and others Poles. A band of little fellows were playing at fighting, Russian infantry, who came to put an end to their sport and to arrest the little insurgents. This fact will appear to you incredible, for in any other country the children would have been dispersed without making use of the armed force. The boys, more active than the Czar's soldiers, soon escaped, and resembled at a greater distance in different groups. The Russian infantry, finding themselves defeated, called the Cossacks, who charged the unfortunate children, but their movements did not succeed better than the former. The Cossacks laid hold of a mother who rushed forward to save her child and cruelly ill-treated her. They then remained masters of the field, with four prisoners in their possession, who were taken before the military tribunal, and released after receiving a whipping. The same day the Cossacks fell, sword in hand, on a troop of children who were leaving school, and carried off a boy of ten years whom they had wounded."

